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COUNTESS SPENCER. BY SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS.

IN THE SPENCER LOAN COLLECTION, SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

to snatch up the sword as an instrument for remedying disasters which may be otherwise ameliorated if not obliterated. There is only one thing certain in connection with a rash appeal to the arbitration of physical force—namely, that both those who offer and those who accept the appeal lay themselves open to grievous calamities. There is a broad truth underlying the maxim pronounced by Divine Authority that "They who take the sword shall perish by the sword." Russian modes of government and principles of policy are little to our taste—still less are those of the Ottoman Empire; but the chastisement of the latter by the former with a view to the improved government of her Christian population might turn out in the end to be a doubtful experiment, yielding no compensation equal to the wholesale misery it would inflict. It is not, therefore, to be assumed that the unanticipated change of attitude in Russia in regard to the present aspects of the Eastern Question is a matter to be deplored. Other and less ruinous means of accomplishing the designs of Europe may yet be discovered.

But should the members of the Conference (which is by no means unlikely) return to the countries they respectively represent, baffled by the deeper subtlety and the unabashed audacity of the Turk, the fact will not say much for the sagacity or the disinterestedness of the Christian Powers, considering the ostentation with which they entered upon their difficult undertaking. The zealous efforts with which they sought unity of counsel and of purpose, and the success with which they came to understand each others' minds, or to fancy they did, will cause the *dénouement*, whichever issue it involves, to be publicly regarded as little short of ridiculous. There needed not such grand machinery merely to give the Turks *carte blanche* for the government of the Ottoman Empire. There needed not that outburst of passionate sentiment on the part of the Slavic population of the Russian Empire. There needed not all the preliminaries of war nor all the expenses which have hitherto been incurred in preparation for it. Lord Salisbury, we hope and believe, will justify the line which he has pursued throughout these negotiations. It has yet to be seen whether adequate support has been given to him by those from whom he accepted his appointment in carrying on his negotiations from day to day. This, however, is a matter for Parliament to see to, and Parliament will, no doubt, closely examine into the whole affair. How far England has made herself responsible by her representatives for the failure of the Conference at Constantinople will soon be seen, and a trustworthy judgment will probably be arrived at as to the extent to which the mistaken policy of July drew after it, as a necessary sequence, the disabilities which revealed themselves in December and January. The policy which has animated Russia may be less easy to unravel. Prince Gortschakoff seems to have outwitted himself. "Seems," we say, for we would not pronounce the word with confidence. He may have still another string to his bow, and one by the aid of which he will hit his mark. But for the present the world looks upon his diplomacy with no little surprise, and awaits with curiosity such an explanation of it as may be possible for him to give.

THE COURT.

The Queen received at dinner yesterday week, at Windsor Castle, the Earl and Countess of Derby, Lord John Manners, Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph, and Major-General H. Ponsonby. Major-General and the Hon. Mrs. Ponsonby also dined with her Majesty the previous day.

On Saturday last the Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, went to London and visited the Duchess of Cambridge at St. James's Palace, where the Duchess of Teck met her Majesty. The Queen travelled by a special train on the Great Western Railway to and from Paddington, returning to Windsor at six o'clock.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Francis Pigou, Vicar of Halifax, officiated. The Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley dined with the Queen.

Princess Christian lunched with her Majesty on Monday. Lady Bagot, the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster, and Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. Biddulph were included in the Royal dinner party.

Princess Christian visited the Queen on Tuesday. Lady Bagot and the Dean of Westminster left the castle.

Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice have walked and driven out daily.

Lady Waterpark has succeeded Lady Abercromby as Lady in Waiting, and Viscount Hawarden and Colonel the Hon. C. H. Lindsay have succeeded Lord Bagot and Rear-Admiral Sir Edward Commerell as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

The Queen has forwarded a donation of £50 to the funds of the All Saints' Convalescent Hospital at Eastbourne.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, accompanied by the Duke of Connaught and Strathearn, drove to the meet of the West Norfolk Hounds, on Saturday last, at Gayton Hall, the seat of the Earl of Romney. The Princes joined in the hunt; there were numerous foxes, and an excellent day's sport was obtained.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess, with Princes Albert Victor and George and Princess Louise of Wales and the Duke of Connaught, attended Divine service at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Sandringham Park. The Rev. W. Lake Onslow and the Rev. Canon C. F. Tarver officiated, the sermon being in aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

On Monday the Prince and Princess left Sandringham, en route for Kimbolton Castle, on a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Manchester. Their Royal Highnesses travelled from Wolferton, accompanied by the Duke of Connaught, in a state saloon-carriage attached to the midday mail-train to Cambridge, where the Duke took leave of them; and the remain-

of the journey was made in a special train, via St. Ives, to Huntingdon, where they were received by the Duke of Manchester, the Earl of Sandwich, and others; the Mayors of Huntingdon and Godmanchester being presented to the Prince and Princess. The Duke of Manchester's Light Horse formed a guard of honour and an escort, and the Huntingdon and the Cambridge Volunteers were in attendance. Their Royal Highnesses drove from Huntingdon station (where were ranged all the school-children of Godmanchester) to Hinchingbrook, where they were entertained, together with a distinguished party, at luncheon by the Earl and Countess of Sandwich, after which the Prince and Princess continued their drive to Kimbolton. Huntingdon was en fête upon the occasion; the town was gaily decorated, the Royal route being spanned by five triumphal arches, and the several bands playing national airs. On Tuesday the Prince and Princess, with their host and hostess and the numerous guests at the castle, drove to the "meet" of the foxhounds in the park; several runs were obtained, and one fox lost his brush. The hunting party returned to luncheon, after which the Prince inspected the Duke of Manchester's farm and his costly herd of shorthorns. On Wednesday his Royal Highness joined the meet of the Fitzwilliam hounds at Catsford Guide Point; foxes were plentiful, and good sport was gained. In the evening a ball was given at the castle by the Duke and Duchess of Manchester in honour of their Royal guests.

The Prince of Wales has sanctioned a donation of £50 from the Duchy of Cornwall, which owns a good deal of land in the neighbourhood of Bath, towards the expenses of the Centenary Exhibition of the Bath and West of England Society next June.

The Duke of Edinburgh was present, on the 4th inst., at a dance given by Rear-Admiral W. G. Luard, at the Admiralty House, Vittoriosa, Malta. The Duchess of Edinburgh had a reception at the Valetta Palace, on Thursday week, which was numerously attended by all classes of the community—English, Maltese, and foreigners. At the christening of the Duke and Duchess's daughter, at Malta, the sponsors were the Queen, the Grand Duchess, Cesarevna, Princess Louis of Hesse, Prince Leopold, and the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia. The Hon. Mrs. Monson represented the Queen, and the other sponsors were represented by the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh. The robe worn by the infant Princess, Victoria Melita, was the same which was worn at their christenings by all her Majesty's children and grandchildren.

Prince and Princess Christian returned to Cumberland Lodge, on Saturday last, from visiting the Earl and Countess of Dudley at Witley Court.

The Duke of Connaught and Count and Countess Gleichen were present at Drury-lane Theatre on Monday.

The Duke of Cambridge left town, on Monday, on a visit to Colonel Tomline at Orwell Park.

Princess Charlotte and Prince Henry of Prussia, the eldest daughter and the second son of the German Crown Prince and grandchildren of Queen Victoria, will be confirmed at Berlin in Holy Week.

THE SPENCER LOAN COLLECTION, SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

This collection of pictures, temporarily placed here for public inspection by the liberality of their owner, Earl Spencer, K.G., possesses a degree of interest not often found even in gatherings much greater in number. High in art merit and rich in historic association, this gallery has long held a conspicuous place among the private collections of this country, especially by its fine examples of portraiture in the long list of its family pictures, from that of the first Lord Spencer (which portrait was created in 1602) and Margaret Willoughby, his wife, painted by Mark Gerards, downwards to recent times. It is, however, in that period of the family history, contemporary with Sir Joshua Reynolds, that the finest examples of that master here are found; as seen in the full-length of Lavinia, Countess Spencer, and Son, which work alone, by its charm of unaffected grace, beauty, and power of colour, places Sir Joshua in the first rank of portrait-painters. The Countess, seated with her boy before her, is seen in profile, wearing a "Gainsborough" hat as large as that in the stolen picture of the "Duchess." The playful action of the figure is happily caught, and the lustrous bloom of health rendered with singular brilliance. Also, by the same masterly hand, are two smaller canvases—the one radiant with the archly-beaming face of Ann Bingham, that of Lavinia Bingham fascinating by the charm of its gentle sweetness. Other portraits by Reynolds referring to this family will also justify their high repute, among which occur the full-length of Georgina, Duchess of Devonshire, placed as a *pendant* to Gainsborough's work of the same subject, and Frances, Marchioness of Camden. The Gainsboroughs, though fine in quality, do not equal the Sir Joshuas, the latter, under nearly all circumstances, possessing a degree of force and power to which the former but seldom approach.

The collection contains many other interesting examples of the English School in Hogarth's "View of the Green Park," heads by Dobson, Walker, Angelica Kauffmann, and others. Passing from works immediately interesting by their connection with the lineage of this noble house, are pictures appealing to us by a general interest. Among these are some canvases by Vandyke of inestimable value; and in saying the gallery exhibits the exquisite full-length of the youthful Elizabeth, daughter of Charles I., and the grand portrait-group of George Digby, second Earl of Bristol, and William Russell, Duke of Bedford, is briefly to say it possesses two of the most highly-esteemed works of this master. Most lovely is the fair young face and girlish figure of the unfortunate Princess, whose fate seems presaged in her lineaments, and whose look of sadness and unconscious beauty haunt us as in a dream. In contrast by its fulness of colour and force of effect, surpassing in such respects all else in the collection, is the group just named. Picturesquely attired in black and red heightened by the effects of light and shade, these scions of two noble houses in their highborn air and bearing must have afforded material to the painter after his own heart. He revelled in his subject, and has left in it a monument of his power. From life to death is but a step; and on the other side of the gallery is the ghastly head of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, as he lay dead in the "worst inn's worst room;" and this, too, by the pencil of Vandyke, whose facile hand has enriched the collection by several other works. Sir Godfrey Kneller has preserved to us the face and features of Sarah Duchess of Marlborough in the heyday of her power, as he also exhibits her as Sarah Jennings before her elevation to the halls of Blenheim. Valuable as illustrations of individual character are the heads of Montaigne by Lucas de Heere, and Anne of Cleves by Van Orley, the grossness of which latter face would fully justify the epithet applied to her by her Royal partner, the bluff King Hal.

Prominent in the Spencer Collection is the series of artists' portraits painted by themselves, and though only twenty-one in number, it is rarely so many similar works are found in one gallery. Like most men of decided power, their individuality

is strongly marked, and in such of those as Murillo, Cayp, Verrio, Paris Bordone, Rembrandt, and Vandyke, we seem to read the characteristics of which biography has informed us. Reynolds, Wilson, Lely, and Antonio More, with others of less note, make up the company. Pictures by the Venetians are not wanting. The elder and younger Cornaro have been portrayed by Tintoretto and Titian respectively, and Paul Veronese is seen to fine effect in the composition of Mary Magdalene washing the Saviour's feet. Rembrandt's magic of light and dark is to be found in his work of the Circumcision, and his portrait of William III. when a boy attests to another phase of his versatility. Sebastian del Piombo's head of Cardinal Pole exhibits the deep tone of the Italian school; while, for the florid magnificence of illumined colour and impetuosity of execution, Rubens's grand sketch of a Jewish Sacrifice distances everything around it.

Our Illustration, selected from the Spencer Loan Collection, is the portrait of the second Countess Spencer, styled in the catalogue "Lavinia, Viscountess Althorp." This lady, a daughter of the first Earl of Lucan, was married, in 1781, to George John, then Viscount Althorp, who succeeded his father, two years later, as the second Earl Spencer. Countess Spencer lived to 1831. Her portrait, as seen in our Engraving, is one of those ancestral pictures by Sir Joshua Reynolds for which that painter has always been famous. In that look of life and being, by which the features seem to hold responsive communication with ourselves, this head is singularly distinguished, the rest of the work exhibiting a charm of colour and dexterity of execution in the treatment of its picturesque costume that has long since assigned it a high place among the works of Reynolds, wherein the subordination of all else to the features is the broad principle of style.

THE IMPERIAL DURBAR AT DELHI.

The Imperial Durbar, or Assembly of the native Princes and nobles of India, on New-Year's Day, for the proclamation of Queen Victoria as Empress of India, has been described in this Journal. It took place on the plain north of Delhi, three or four miles from the present inhabited city, and nearly on the spot where the Prince of Wales sojourned in the camp, a twelvemonth ago, to witness the grand review of the Indian army. This Imperial Durbar was certainly a more imposing assemblage of native magnates, and of the actual rulers of India, than even the Grand Chapter of the Star of India at Calcutta held on the preceding New-Year's Day. It was mentioned, in our former account of the proceedings, that Lord Lytton, the Viceroy of India, presented to each of the native Princes a commemorative medal—gold for greater Princes, silver for those of inferior rank. The medal is the work of Mr. George G. Adams, sculptor and medallist. The obverse gives a very faithful and pleasing portrait, in profile, of her Majesty; while the reverse bears simply the words "Empress of India" in three languages—Persian, English, and Hindoo. We understand that Mr. Adams is executing the head of the Queen for the Arctic Expedition medal.

THE JUMNA MUSJID, DELHI.

Among the superb edifices of that Imperial city, where the Queen of Great Britain has recently been proclaimed Empress of India, is the chief mosque, built two centuries ago by the Mogul Emperor, Shah Jehan, to whose dominion her gracious Majesty has fully succeeded. The Jumna Musjid, as this grand building is usually called, stands on the bank of the river Jumna, occupying a platform 450 ft. square, which is paved with red stone, and is raised 30 ft. above the general level of the city. On three sides of this square, in the perfect state of the building, were continuous arcades, with a series of open octagonal pavilions, and with a lofty gateway on each side approached by steps. On the fourth side is the mosque itself, presenting a beautiful front of white marble, but with a cornice inlaid with black marble. Its length is 260 ft. At each end rise three domes, of white marble ribbed with black, to the height of 150 ft. The summit commands a wide view of the city and adjacent plain, including the ground chosen for the Viceroy's encampment, and for the Imperial Durbar. In the distance is seen the famous Kootub Minar, a column 240 ft. high, with projecting galleries near the top, serving as a minaret in old times for the vociferous herald of the Moslem faith to cry aloud, "There is but one Allah, and Mohammed is the Prophet of Allah!"

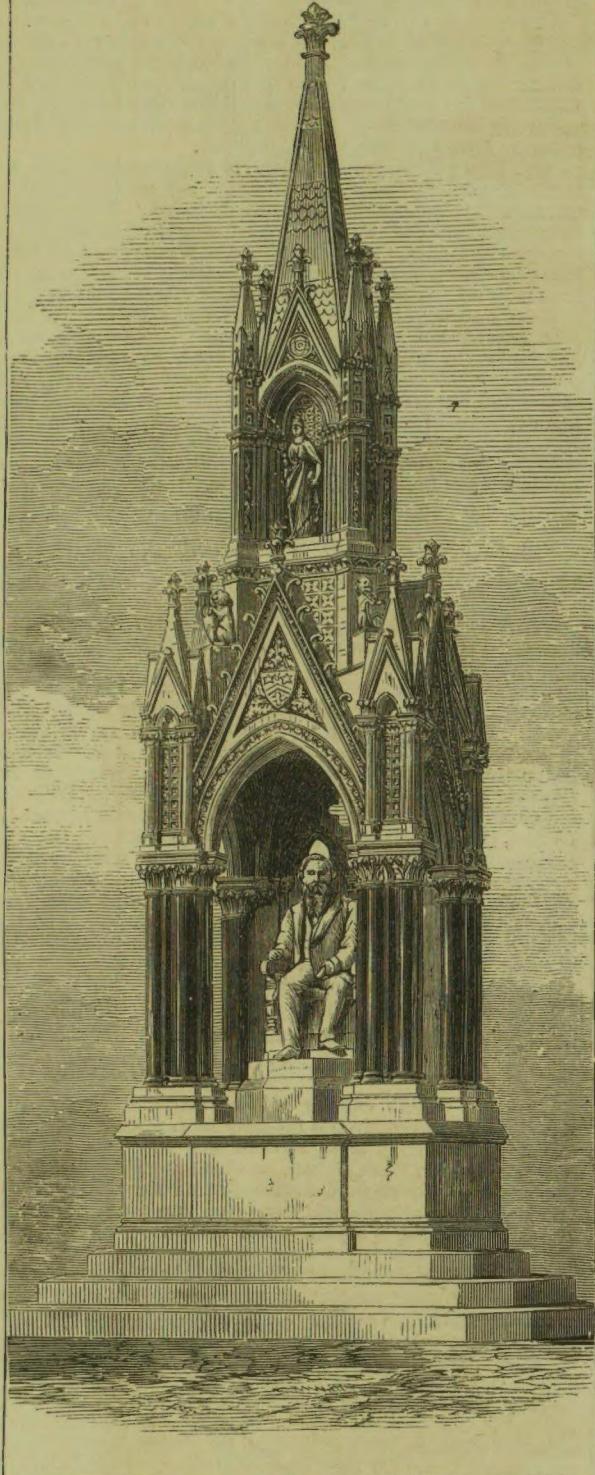
THE LATE SIR TITUS SALT, BART.

The death of this eminent manufacturer and local benefactor of the West Riding has been noticed with appropriate testimonies of respect for his great works of public usefulness. It is a suitable opportunity for us to give an Illustration of the monument which was erected in honour of him, two or three years ago, in the flourishing commercial town of Bradford. Mr. Adams-Acton is the sculptor by whom the statue was designed and executed, and it is generally approved as a faithful and characteristic likeness of Sir Titus Salt. The architectural canopy or shrine was erected by Messrs. Lockwood and Mawson. Our readers are probably aware that the magnificent industrial colony of "Salford," a complete model town for a large working-class population attached to the alpaca and worsted or mixed factory—is situated near Bradford, on the banks of the Aire. Here the liberal proprietor erected above 800 comfortable dwelling-houses, a Congregational and a Wesleyan church, several schools, lecture-halls, clubs and institutes, baths and washhouses, hospitals, infirmaries, and almshouses, and laid out a park for the recreation of his workpeople. Sir Titus Salt likewise conferred upon the town of Bradford, which he once represented in Parliament, some direct benefits of considerable amount, by his donations to the Fever Hospital, Peel Park, and other institutions, as well as by his personal services in the borough Corporation. Besides the open-air monument shown in our Illustration, there is a marble bust of Sir Titus Salt, upon a pillar and pedestal, in St. George's Hall at Bradford. It is the work of Mr. T. Milnes, and was presented to the town by the workpeople at Salford.

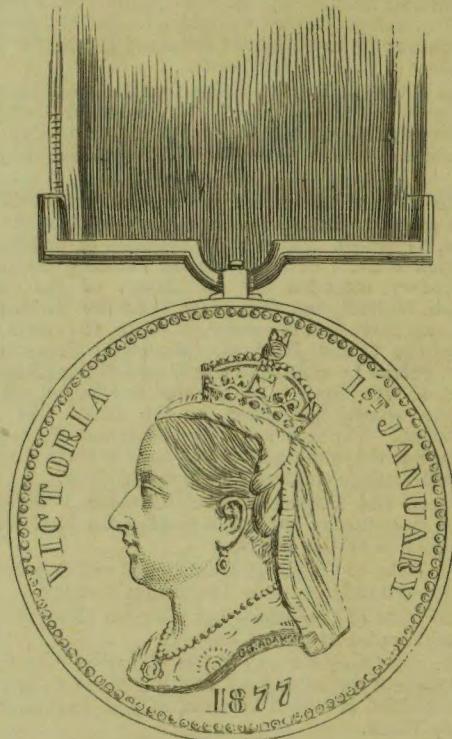
Mr. Joseph Whitwell Pease, M.P., on behalf of his partners, owners of the Middlesbrough estate, presented, on Monday, to the town the Middlesbrough High School—a building which, together with the land upon which it is erected, is equivalent to a total gift of £25,000. About six years ago, chiefly through the instrumentality of Mr. Thomas Hugh Bell, the High School was founded in a modest and unpretending way—a dwelling house having been converted into suitable premises for the purpose. An effort was made by different gentlemen to widen the operations of the High School. The ex-Mayor, Mr. John Dunning, brought the matter under the notice of Mr. Joseph Whitwell Pease, M.P., and that gentleman agreed not only to give a site, but to erect the main portion of the new building, which is situated at the top of the Albert-road, Middlesbrough. Mr. Pease communicated with Mr. Waterhouse, architect, London, and the work was quickly completed.

THE DELHI CLOCK TOWER.

The municipality of Delhi has, of late years, effected great improvements in that city, where Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India on New-Year's Day. The streets and roads are now, perhaps, the cleanest and best drained and repaired of any native city in India. Handsome English lamps, with cast-iron posts, have lately been introduced in all the streets. A fine Townhall, with a ball-room, museum, library, and splendid durbar hall, measuring eighty feet in length by forty feet in width and height, has been erected, in a commanding site, between the Queen's-gardens and the Chandnee Chowk. Trees have been planted along the sides of the roads; large and handsome tanks have been built; and almost everything has been done that taste or intelligence could suggest for the proper conservancy of this fine old "City of the Great Moguls." The latest improvement is the new clock tower, erected in the centre of the street called Chandnee

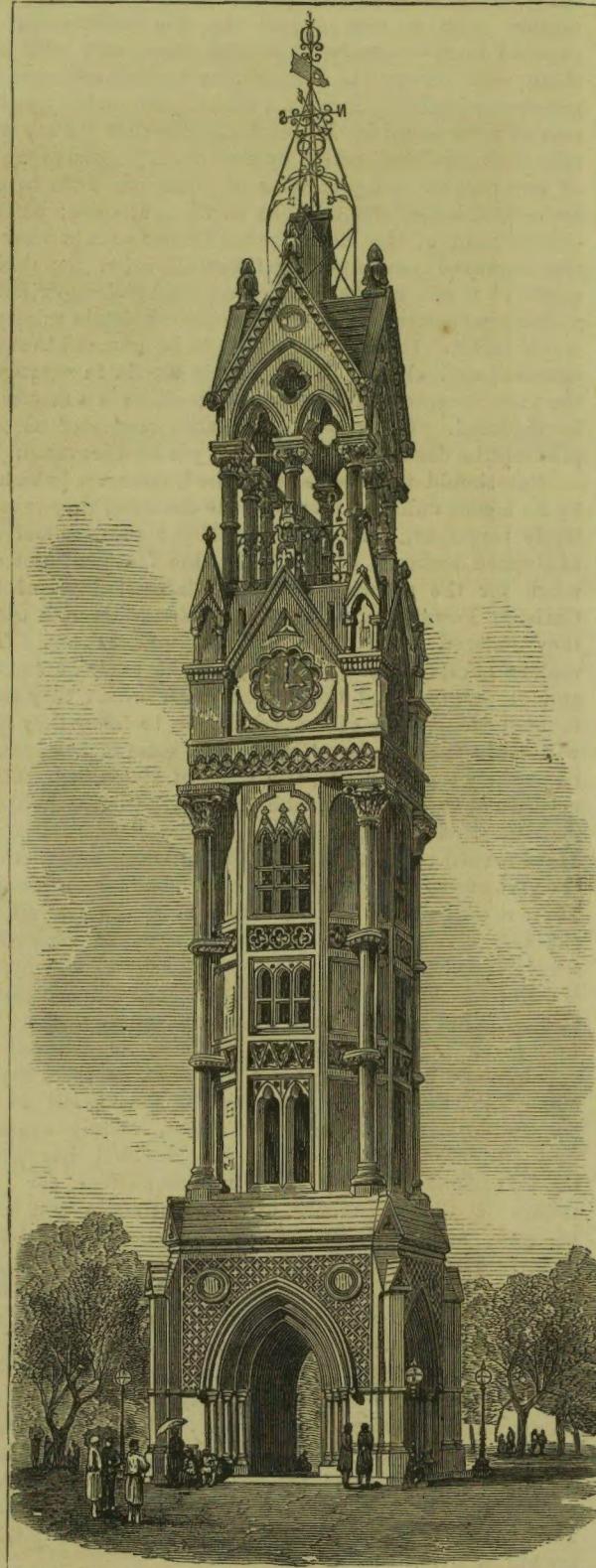


MONUMENT IN HONOUR OF THE LATE SIR TITUS SALT,
AT BRADFORD.

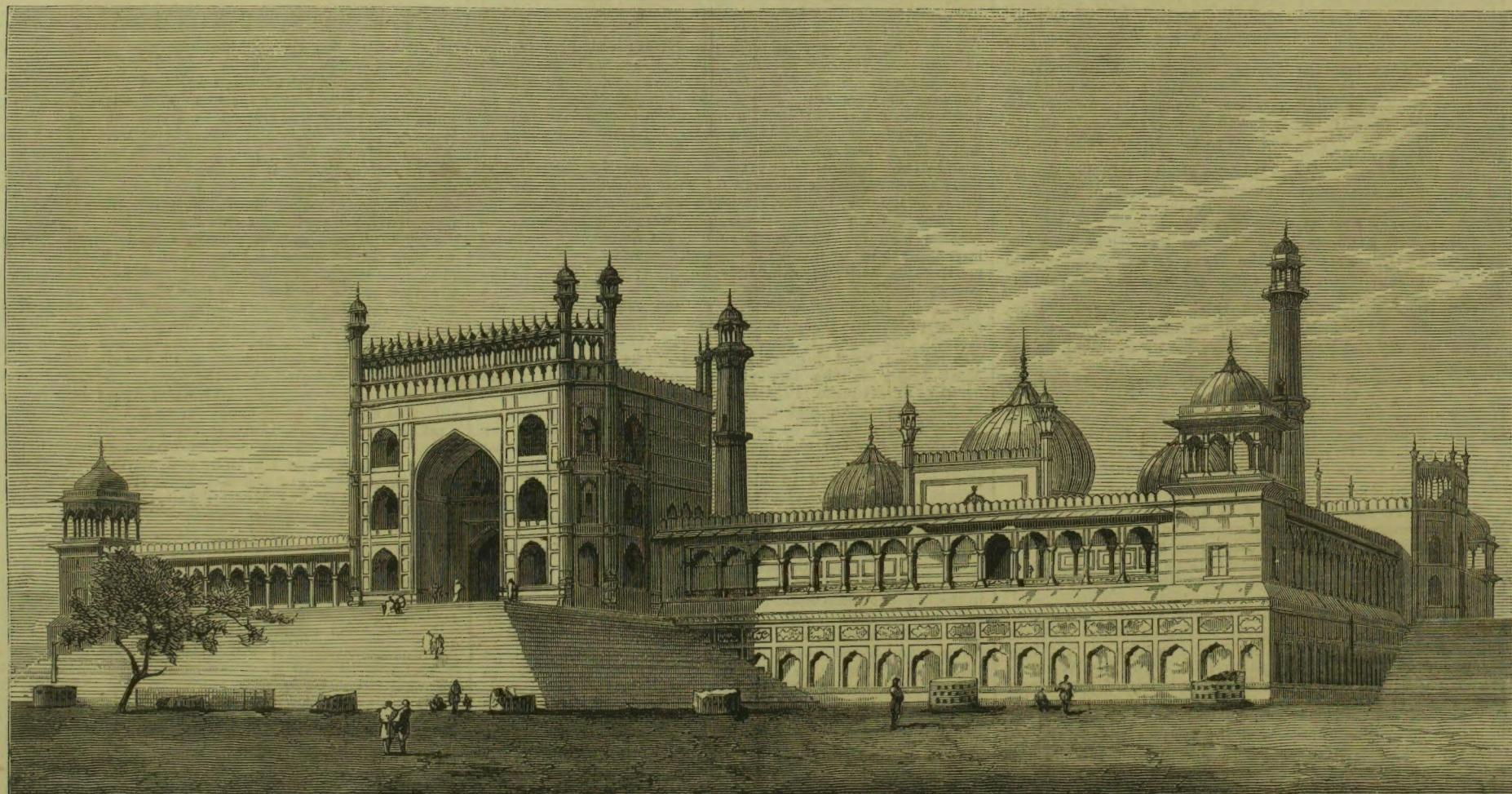


MEDAL TO COMMEMORATE THE PROCLAMATION OF THE
QUEEN AS EMPRESS OF INDIA.

Chowk, opposite the Townhall. This building stands 115 feet in height above the roadway, exclusive of the handsome gilt vane. Its materials are brick, red and yellow sandstone, and white marble. The stone dressings and carving are beautifully executed, from the designs and models of the architect. The capitals surmounting the main corner pillars measure four feet three inches wide and four feet six inches deep; they are carved out of solid blocks of white sandstone, and each cap weighs over two tons. The dials are sufficiently elevated to be distinctly visible from the stations of the East Indian and Punjab railways, and from other parts of the city. The building has been completed in about eighteen months, at a cost, including clock and bells, of about 30,000 rupees (£3000), the whole of which sum was furnished by the Municipal Commissioners. The tower was designed and built under the superintendence of Mr. Edward Martin, Executive Engineer Rajpootana (State) Railway; the clock and bells were supplied by Mr. Benson, of Ludgate-hill, London.



THE IMPERIAL DURBAR AT DELHI: THE CLOCK TOWER,
DELHI.



THE IMPERIAL DURBAR AT DELHI: THE JUMNA MUSJID.



THE FLOODS: ETON COLLEGE, FROM THE DATCHET ROAD.

THE CONFERENCE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

Up to the time of preparing this number of our Journal the fate of the proposals unanimously agreed upon by the Great Powers of Europe, and formally submitted to the Turkish Government, was still uncertain. They were to be considered, on Thursday, by a Grand Council of the Empire, which Midhat Pasha had convened for this occasion. The Council was expected to number as many as 200 members, and it would include, besides all the principal State functionaries, the Greek and Armenian Patriarchs, and the heads of the Roman Catholic, Bulgarian, and Jewish religious communities. It was believed at Constantinople that the final proposals would be rejected, and in view of this the Plenipotentiaries and Ambassadors are making preparations for their departure. The Sultan has given an audience to the Persian Minister, and expressed his wish to cultivate the most friendly relations with Persia. The Turkish armaments continue on an extensive scale, and contracts have been concluded by the Minister of War with some Belgian firms for the supply of a large quantity of arms and ammunition. One of our Special Artist's Sketches is that showing the appearance, in the streets of Constantinople, of a number of recruits, just arrived by sea from Salonica, to be armed and drilled for military service. Another scene at Constantinople is the purchasing of sheep to be sacrificed at the Mohammedan religious festival of the Koorban Bairam, upon which occasion a great political demonstration was expected in support of the Turkish rule over the Christian populations. It is the custom of the richer class of Moslem, after slaughtering the sheep bought for this festival, to give the meat to the poor, as no order of priests in their religion claim it for themselves. The sittings of the Conference were expected to terminate on this present Saturday. They have been held, as we stated before, in the official mansion of the Turkish Minister of Marine, which we should call the Admiralty, adjoining the naval arsenal at Pera. We present a near view of that building, sketched by our own Artist from the old Turkish cemetery on the steep bank of the Golden Horn, below the residence of the British Embassy and the hotel occupied by Lord Salisbury, as described in a former notice. Stamboul, the Turkish city, is seen on the opposite bank of the Golden Horn. A singular incident of the past week is yet to be mentioned; this is the arrival of a deputation of Hungarian students from Pesth, at the instigation of General Klapka, and with the approval of Kossuth, to present a complimentary address and sword of honour to Abdul Kerim Pasha. He is the Turkish Commander-in-Chief in the war against Servia. Those in England who sympathised with Hungary in the conflict for her own liberties, a quarter of a century ago, may now feel disposed to ask whether the Magyars, after all, are deserving of their sympathy as friends of freedom.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Jan. 18.

The week has been an uneventful one so far as the Versailles Legislature is concerned; but, in default of exciting Parliamentary incidents, the Parisians have been entertained with a grand *bal masqué* at the Opéra, and a Bonapartist demonstration at the Church of St. Augustin. The ball given on Saturday night was a brilliant success, the famous waltzes of Johann Strauss, who conducted in person, being greatly applauded, spite of a foolish conspiracy (which the press has deservedly censured in severe language) to assert the superiority of French over German dance music. From a pecuniary point of view the fête yielded most satisfactory results, there being no fewer than 6000 entrées, and the receipts exceeding £3500.

It was on Monday morning that the Bonapartists made their customary annual demonstration at the Church of St. Augustin, where mass was said for the repose of the soul of the Emperor Napoleon III. The heroes of the manifestation were M. Paul de Cassagnac, whom the crowd familiarly greeted with shouts of "Vive M. Paul!"—a flower-girl, moreover, deliberately kissing him in a sudden outburst of enthusiasm—and a so-called delegate of the working-classes, who carried a gigantic crown of immortelles, bearing the inscription "To the memory of the Emperor, from the workmen of Paris." When the ceremony was over there were loud shouts of "Vive la France!" "Vive Cassagnac!" besides one or two isolated cries of "Down with the Republic!" Altogether, there were certainly not more than five or six hundred people present.

Besides this demonstration, which, spite of the pompous manner in which had been announced, proved a most insignificant affair, one has also to thank the Bonapartists for the only lively debate we have had in the Chamber this week. They thought proper the other afternoon to provoke the Minister of Justice apropos of the dismissal of the Advocate-General of the Appeal Court at Besançon—who was recently revoked of his functions by M. Martel for having publicly sung the praises of the notorious mixed commissions which succeeded Louis Napoleon's coup d'état and summarily dealt with the lives and liberties of some 40,000 citizens. M. Martel defended his line of conduct in a vigorous speech reflecting upon the mixed commissions as having been a disgrace to France, and the Chamber formally expressed its approval of the Ministerial utterances by voting a favourable order of the day by an overwhelming majority. M. Paul de Cassagnac intervened in the discussion on behalf of the Imperialists, when his language was so violent that he only narrowly escaped the formal censure of the House. M. Martel's speech naturally met with the warm approval of the Republican press, which had long been calling for some satisfaction of this kind; but the Minister now finds himself in a somewhat difficult situation, the matter in which the Advocate-General of Besançon was implicated having come before the Cour de Cassation, whose president, M. Devienne, happens to have been a member of these same mixed commissions.

Another literary celebrity has passed away this week in the person of M. Buloz, the founder and editor of the well-known *Revue des Deux Mondes*, to which during the last fifty years so many French writers of genius have contributed. M. Buloz, who was of obscure parentage, and began life as a boy in a printing-office, was only possessed of limited literary attainments, though he eventually arrogated to himself the editorial privilege of mutilating the "copy" of such writers as George Sand, Michelet, Guizot, Lamennais, and Henri Heine. His appearance and manners were far from prepossessing, and with his contributors he was almost invariably harsh and unpleasant. He had a certain fund of natural wit at command, and the papers abound in anecdotes respecting him. Although all his life a freethinker, he was buried on Monday with unusual pomp, according to the rites of the Roman Catholic Church, the ceremony being attended by a large number of literary celebrities.

The newspapers also announce the death of Madame Sarah Felix, the sister of the celebrated tragédienne Rachel, and herself at one time an actress of considerable ability.

ITALY.

In the Chamber of Deputies, on Wednesday, a bill was

introduced providing means for putting an end to abuses committed by the clergy in the exercise of their Ministry. Rear-Admiral di Saint Bon, Minister of Marine in the late Cabinet, has been returned to the Chamber of Deputies by the electoral colleges of Bozzolo and Castelfranco.

On Sunday the Pope received a deputation of ex-Pontifical functionaries, one of whom read an extremely violent address against the Italian Government. His Holiness, in reply, censured the measures contemplated by the Italian Cabinet with regard to the Church.

The Faculty of Law at Perugia has voted unanimously the abolition of capital punishment.

Two of the brigands who recently robbed the diligence between Palermo and Sciacca have been killed by the troops.

SPAIN.

At a Council of Ministers held, on Tuesday, under the presidency of the King, it was decided that the Ministry for Foreign Affairs should be intrusted to Señor Manuel Silvela, the Ministry of Justice to Señor Calderon Coflantes, and that of the Colonies to Señor Martin Herrera.

The Burmese Envoys have been received with much state by the King.

A children's hospital has been opened at Madrid. It is on the English model, and is the first established in Spain.

BELGIUM.

In Tuesday's sittings of the Chamber of Representatives, a bill was introduced and read by M. Malou, Minister of Finance, for preventing bribery and corruption in elections.

GERMANY.

The Emperor William has been created an honorary member of the Imperial Academy of Science of St. Petersburg, and has accepted the distinction.

Princess Charles of Prussia, sister of the Empress of Germany and mother of Prince Frederick Charles, died at Berlin on Thursday morning.

The Prussian Diet was opened, on the 12th inst., by the King in person. His Majesty, in the speech from the throne, said nothing whatever about European affairs. He expressed his hope that the endeavours of the Government to supply the wants of the country would meet with firm support in the Diet; and added that the public revenue for 1877, estimated on the whole to equal that of last year, offered the means of satisfying any new and permanent requirements of the State. The King then returned thanks for the proofs of affection and fidelity which he had received from his people on the celebration of his seventy years' military jubilee, and said that he regarded the sentiments then manifested towards him as a sure guarantee that Prussia would continue to fulfil her political mission in the German empire by faithfully carrying out truly monarchical and at the same time liberal institutions. On Monday the Lower House elected its presidents and constituted its bureau. Herr von Bennigsen was chosen President by 351 out of 367 valid votes recorded. Herr Klotz was elected first and Count Bethusy-Hue second Vice-President, the former by 211 out of 366, and the latter by 223 out of 307 votes. The Budget was presented to the Chamber, on Tuesday, by Herr Camphausen, the Minister of Finance. The Minister, in his speech, dwelt upon the difficult conditions of last year, and said that the fact of there being no deficit ought to be considered satisfactory. The receipts of the Treasury in 1876 showed a reduction of 3,000,000 marks; on the other hand, the administration of the forests showed a surplus of 3,000,000 marks over the estimates. The receipts from the direct taxes were in excess of, and those of the indirect taxes below, the estimates. The receipts for 1877-8 are estimated at 651,413,934 marks, being 15,466 marks less than last year. The ordinary expenditure is set down at 631,075,487 marks, being an increase of 11,915,369 upon last year. The extraordinary expenditure is estimated at 20,368,338, being 11,938,135 marks less than those for the preceding year.

The *North German Gazette* states that the German war-croft Vineta has been ordered by telegraph to leave Yokohama and take up her station at Manilla, in order to give the protection of the Imperial flag to the German commercial interests in those waters.

A despatch received by the African Society of Berlin announces that the African explorer, Dr. Pogge, who is on his way home, has succeeded in discovering the long-sought kingdom of Muata Yamvo, in Central Africa. Dr. Pogge is expected at Berlin very shortly.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor has written to the Commander-in-Chief and all those who have recently been engaged in the mobilisation and concentration of the Russian troops in Europe and the Caucasus thanking them for their successful exertions.

The Budget for 1877 shows the public revenue for the past year to have amounted to 570,778,000 roubles, and the expenditure to 568,770,000 roubles. In the estimates for the present year the revenue from the sugar duty is calculated to yield 1,000,000 roubles, and the revenue from the Post Office and telegraphs 2,000,000 roubles more than 1876. The Customs duties, however, are estimated to produce 3,000,000 roubles less than last year. The ordinary expenditure for 1877 shows an increase of 3,500,000 roubles.

DENMARK.

M. Brix, the Socialist leader, has been found guilty of political misdemeanour by the criminal court at Copenhagen and sentenced to four years' penal servitude.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

The Swedish Rigsdag was opened, on Wednesday, with a Speech from the Throne, in which it was announced that a bill will be introduced for the extension of military manoeuvres, which is to form the basis of the intended new army organisation. Other bills are announced for reducing the land tax, for providing grants for the fleet, and for protecting literary copyright. The First Chamber has elected Count Hamilton president; the other members of the bureau have been re-elected.

Mr. Crowe, the British Consul-General in Norway, died suddenly on the 10th inst.

Great damage was done, on Monday afternoon, by a fire which occurred at the principal theatre in Christiania. The larger portion of the building and a considerable quantity of theatrical property were destroyed.

AMERICA.

The Select Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives, appointed to devise means for the proper count of the votes for President and Vice-President, has agreed to submit the question to the decision of a tribunal composed of members of the Supreme Court, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. Only two members dissent from this resolution. The Committee is very hopeful that the country will be satisfied with the result of its labours. A resolution has been passed by the House of Representatives declaring that all attempts to excite or prejudice public opinion on the subject of the Presidential election before the question has been constitutionally decided are unwise, unpatriotic, and dangerous. On Wednesday directions were given by the House of Representatives to its Serjeant-at-Arms to arrest the members of the Louisiana Returning Board and to

bring them to the bar of the House for refusing to produce certain papers before the Committee appointed by the House to investigate matters connected with the recent elections in the Southern States. The rival State Governments which have been organised at New Orleans carry on their domestic warfare with considerable method and patience. Mr. Nicholls, the Democratic Governor of Louisiana, having taken forcible possession of all the public buildings in New Orleans, the State House alone excepted, Mr. Packard, the rival Republican Governor, maintains himself in the State House. On the Republican side there are the negro militiamen; the white militia is, of course, Democratic. The metropolitan policemen, after giving ineffectual support to Mr. Packard, have thought it prudent to disappear from the streets of the city. The deserts which have taken place from the Republican to the Democratic Legislature seem to indicate in Louisiana, as they did in South Carolina, a feeling that the Democrats have really the popular voice on their side. In answer to Mr. Packard's demand for the assistance of the Federal troops in order to expel the Democrats from the Court House at New Orleans, President Grant has telegraphed to the Federal Commandant that the troops should only intervene to prevent a breach of the peace.

Mr. Ferry, the President of the Senate and Vice-President of the Republic, has been re-elected senator.

The engineers who have made a detailed examination of the mouth of the Mississippi officially report that the channel is twenty feet deep and two hundred feet wide throughout the South Pass.

The United States Consul in the Samoan Islands has arrived at San Francisco. He is commissioned, it is stated, by the native Government to make a treaty with the United States with a view to recognition of the Samoan Government by America and the cultivation of closer relations.

INDIA.

The Viceroy went from Delhi to Puttiala, where he installed the young Maharajah in the presence of the Rajahs of Jheend and Nabha and the Regency Council. From Puttiala Lord Lytton went to Allyghur, where he laid the foundation of an Anglo-Mohammedan college. After visiting Agra he arrived at Calcutta, accompanied by Lady Lytton and his family, on Saturday last.

The famine in the Madras and Bombay Presidencies is assuming a very serious aspect. The Government of India has forwarded a despatch to Lord Salisbury, in which the cost to the State on account of relief works and other measures for mitigating the effects of the famine is estimated at £6,500,000.

Lord Carnarvon, acting in Lord Salisbury's absence as Secretary of State for India, has addressed a despatch to the Governor-General on the subject of the famine in Western and Southern India. Lord Carnarvon says he gathers from the information he has received that the famine will increase in intensity until the month of April, and from that date gradually diminish. It is estimated that the largest number of people to be provided for at one time in Bombay will be a million. In Madras, there are 134,000 persons employed on relief works; but the calculation of the number which will be reached in that Presidency in April has not yet arrived at the India Office. Referring to the relief operations, his Lordship says that the Governments of Bombay and Madras do not appear to entertain any apprehension of an inability to carry the necessary supplies to the affected localities, but he cannot regard without uneasiness the consequences of imperfect communications in districts which cover so wide an area, and some of which lie at so great a distance from the lines of railway. He desires to be furnished regularly, week by week, with a telegraphic summary of the leading facts as they arise in each Presidency, and with special narratives by mail of the progress of the famine, and of the proceedings of the two Governments under his Excellency's directions.

By public auction, on Monday, the Berne-Lucerne Railway was acquired by the canton of Berne for 8,475,000.

Direct telegraphic communication from England to Portugal, Spain, Gibraltar, Madeira, and Brazil has been restored by the repair of the cable between Falmouth and Lisbon.

Intelligence from Matamoros says it is reported that the army of Iglesias was defeated on the 3rd inst., and has surrendered in Guanajuato to the forces under Porfirio Diaz. Iglesias asked permission to retire into private life.

Brazil, the Dutch and Spanish colonies, some British colonies, and Ceylon have joined the International Postal Union; and the Portuguese colonies, Hong-Kong, Japan, and the Argentine Republic have signified their wish to enter it.

From Carthagena confirmation has been received of the news that the Dutch Consul and other persons had been assassinated in the public streets. The perpetrators are not known, and the events are said to have no political significance.

Health on the Gold Coast, according to the latest intelligence, was good. The position of affairs remained unchanged at Whydah. Rumours, however, were current of the King having consented to pay the fine imposed by Commodore Hewett and reopen trade.

Consul Kirk has forwarded to Lord Derby a letter from the Sultan of Zanzibar expressing his desire to encourage and render every assistance to the movement recently set on foot by the Geographical Conference at Brussels for opening up the interior of Africa.

Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. have now ready for publication a new Indian Army and Civil Service List, which embraces, in about 600 octavo pages, every department of the public service in India, including, of course, the British troops quartered in Indian stations.

The Chinese Ambassador to England, with his suite, landed on Tuesday at Gibraltar, and were received by Lord Napier of Magdala, the Governor and Commander-in-Chief. After the reception the Ambassador and the members of the Embassy drove round the rock and visited the galleries.

Owing to the appearance of cattle plague in animals exported from Hamburg, an Order in Council has been issued placing sheep and goats imported from Germany under the same restrictions as now apply to cattle. The effect of this order will be that all animals from Germany will be slaughtered at the place of landing.

The Cape Town *Standard and Mail* records a prompt rescue of a seaman from drowning. During the voyage of the Union Royal Mail Company's steam-ship Roman, on Nov. 15, a strong gale was blowing from the westward, with a heavy sea running, when one of the ordinary seamen fell overboard from the bridge, where he had been fastening the awning. Mr. Pybus, second officer, who was on the poop taking sights at the time, put down his sextant and threw a life-buoy within a few feet of the man, who got hold of it. A boat was lowered (by Clifford's patent lowering apparatus) and the man picked up and taken on board, and within fifteen minutes from the time of the accident the Roman was on her way again.

THE CHURCH.

The Rev. John Richardson Selwyn, M.A., a son of the Bishop of Lichfield, has been appointed Bishop of Melanesia, which comprises the islands of the South Pacific. Mr. Selwyn has been in charge of the mission since the murder of Bishop Patteson, in 1871; and it is understood that he would have received the appointment to the bishopric earlier but for his age, which is only thirty-two. It is expected that he will be consecrated in New Zealand.

The usual monthly meeting of the Incorporated Church Building Society was held on Monday, at the society's house, 7, Whitehall, S.W.—Archdeacon Harrison in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects—viz., building new churches at Llwynypia, near Pontypridd, Glamorgan, and Solva, in the parish of Whitchurch, Pembroke; rebuilding the churches at Brighton, St. Mary, Sussex, and Littleton-on-Severn, near Bristol; enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Combyne, near Lyne Regis, Devon, North Chapel, near Petworth, Sussex, and South Normanton, near Alfreton, Derby. Grants were also made from the Special School-Church and Mission-House Fund towards building school or mission churches at Gorsley, near Newent, Gloucester, and East Kirkby, near Mansfield, Notts. The Mission-Church Fund is again exhausted. Many outstanding applications remain; and it will depend entirely upon the offerings made by Church people whether these applications can be met or must be refused.

At the Arches Court, last Saturday, Dr. Stephens applied that the Rev. Arthur Tooth, Vicar of St. James's, Hatcham, should be pronounced guilty of contempt of Court for having, in disobedience to an inhibition of that Court, exercised the cure of souls in his church on Dec. 24 and 31, and also for having published in St. James's Church a libel upon the Court and its authority. Lord Penzance, the Dean, said he had no hesitation in applying the powers provided by the statute of the 53d. George III., cap. 127, and pronounce Mr. Tooth to be contumacious and in contempt. His Lordship directed that the same should be signified to the Queen in Chancery, with a view to his imprisonment, and Mr. Tooth was ordered to pay the costs. Notwithstanding the judgment of the Court of Arches, three services were held at St. James's, Hatcham, on Sunday. They took place early in the morning, before the Bishop's notice closing the church had been posted on the doors.—A correspondence is published in which the Bishop of Lincoln sets forth at length reasons why the decisions of the Court of Arches should be respected and obeyed.—A special general meeting of the members of the English Church Union was held at Freemasons' Hall, on Tuesday, to consider the questions in dispute with reference to St. James's Church, Hatcham. The discussion, however, took a general turn upon the relations of the Church to the State, and recent decisions of the Privy Council and Lord Penzance were warmly condemned. Resolutions were passed protesting against the encroachments of the State on the liberties of the Church.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

The opening of the new hall of Balliol College was celebrated, on Tuesday night, by a banquet, at which about 250 past and present senior members of the society were present. "Florat domus de Balliolo" was responded to by the Master; "The Visitors," by the Bishop of London; "The Houses of Parliament," by Lord Cardwell and Mr. Cave; "The Clergy," by the Archbishop of Canterbury; "The University," by the Vice-Chancellor; "The Bar," by Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P.; "The Civil Service," by Mr. R. R. W. Lingen, C.B.; and "Literature and Science," by Mr. Matthew Arnold.

CAMBRIDGE.

The undermentioned have been declared entitled to Mathematical honours; the list in order of merit will be published on the 26th inst.:—

Arnold, Pembroke; Atkinson, Clare; Bagshaw, John's; Barry, Catherine's; Bassett, Trinity; Bayman, Trinity Hall; Bell, John's; Bevill, Trinity; Berkeley, King's; Blackburn, Trinity; Boissier, Queens'; Bothamley, Corpus; Bowyer, Queens'; F. L. Brereton, Corpus; Carr, Trinity; Catty, Christ's; Clark, Christ's; Clayton, Emmanuel; Coates, Trinity; Cobbold, Sidney; Colles, Emmanuel; Dauckwerts, Pembroke; Dixon, Christ's; Doherty, John's; Eustace, John's; Foa, Trinity Hall; Fuller, Emmanuel; Gibbons, Caius; Gilliland, Queens'; Grant, Christ's; Greaves, Christ's; Hadden, Trinity; Hancey, Queens'; Hatfield, John's; Hawthorne, King's; Heath, John's; Hicks, Trinity; Hickson, Trinity; Highmoor, Corpus; Hinckman, Christ's; Hodson, Trinity Hall; Hogben, Catherine's; Hopkins, Trinity; Horton, Trinity Hall; Janvrin, Clare; Jones, Jesus; Jones, John's; Kearney, Corpus; Kikuchi, John's; Knight, Trinity; Lawrence, Trinity; Lee, Pembroke; Lewis, Trinity; Lyon, Emmanuel; McAlister, John's; MacMichael, Trinity; Marwood, John's; B. A. Miller, Trinity; Mills, Clare; Milton, Caius; Monro, Queens'; Murton, John's; Newbury, Peterhouse; Noakes, Christ's; Norman, Downing; Notley, Sidney; Parsons, John's; Pendlebury, John's; Perceval, Corpus; Perry, Catherine's; Pryse, Trinity; Rextou, Downing; Ridley, John's; Robinson, John's; Rose, Trinity; Rome, Trinity; Rowles, Catherine's; Salmon, Jesus; Sharratt, Emmanuel; Sharrock, Jesus; Sheriff, Emmanuel; A. P. Smith, Trinity; J. P. Smith, Trinity; Sole, Jesus; Stevens, Peter's; Swainson, Trinity; Tait, John's; Vinter, Sidney; Walters, Queens'; Williams, Pembroke; Wilson, John's; Wilson, Sidney; Woolley, Corpus; Wood, Christ's. Egerton-Balfour, Trinity, allowed the ordinary degree; Chambers, Pembroke; Mason, Jesus; Miller, Pembroke; Ruck, Christ's; Vaughan, Peter's. Excused the general examination.—Fenn, Trinity; Morris, Pembroke.

The examiners for the Law Tripos have issued the following class list:—

Class I.—Bond, Trinity Hall; Mews, Trinity, and Thorncley, Trinity Hall, equal; Corbett, Trinity. Class II.—Thompson, Christ's; Keating, Trinity; Moon, Trinity; Heath, Trinity; Ds Stewart, John's, Atkinson, Caius, Frankau, Caius, and Turner, Trinity, equal; Heilmuth, Trinity, and Ds Marriott, Trinity, equal; Hanson, John's, Martin, Trinity Hall, and Morton, Trinity Hall, equal; Upward, John's, Langham, Trinity Hall; Phipson, Clare; Chamberlain, Emmanuel; Booth, Trinity; Tayleur, Trinity; Gurner, Jesus; Feabody, Trinity. Class III.—Brandon, Trinity Hall; Wise, Trinity; Holland, Trinity Hall; Adam, John's, and Howard, Trinity, equal; Gray, Trinity; Harrison, Trinity; Thomas, Trinity; Walker, Trinity; Beckingsale, Christ Church. The following candidates not deemed worthy of honours have been allowed an ordinary degree:—Curry, St. John's; Goodridge, St. John's; Macpherson, Trinity; and Solly, Trinity. Messrs. Faulkner, Trinity Hall; Noble, Trinity; and Travis, Emmanuel, have satisfied the examiners so as to be excused the general examination for the ordinary degree.

At a meeting of Convocation of the University of London, held on Tuesday evening, at the University building, Burlington-gardens, a resolution for the appointment of a special committee to consider what changes were desirable in the constitution of the University was defeated by fifty-seven to fifteen. A resolution requesting the annual committee to report upon the best means of carrying into effect the desire of Convocation that the degrees of the University should be open to women was carried, after a long discussion, by twenty-two to sixteen.

Lord Coleridge took the chair, on Wednesday evening, at the annual dinner of the evening department of King's College. In the course of his address, he called attention to the history of the institution, which he pronounced a success, and expressed an earnest hope and belief that this would continue. His Lordship heartily recognised and thoroughly admired the practical effects of such a system of education as that carried out in King's College.

The Charity Commissioners have recently issued a scheme for the administration of the Tonbridge Grammar School, which was established under the will of Sir Andrew Judd, made in 1553.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Dr. Herbert Watney has been elected assistant physician at St. George's Hospital.

A successful trial was made, on Tuesday, of the landing-stage, pontoon, and boats of the steam-ferry which is to cross the Thames between Wapping and Rotherhithe.

The discourse at the Royal Institution, next Friday evening, the 26th inst., will be given by Sir John Lubbock, Bart., M.P., F.R.S. (on Ants), instead of by Professor Huxley, as previously announced.

The annual benefit of Mr. Frederick Burgess, of the Moore and Burgess Minstrels, is announced for Tuesday next, at St. James's Great Hall. There will be performances in the afternoon and evening, and many artistes of note will appear.

At the weekly meeting of the London School Board the committee on incorrigible truants presented a report embodying a scheme for dealing with that class of children, and, after the discussion, it was resolved to send a letter to the Home Secretary in accordance with the committee's recommendation.

An exhibition and bazaar in aid of the Orphan Working School and the Alexandra Orphanage is announced to be held at the Crystal Palace next Monday, consisting of all kinds of fancy work, scrap albums, collections of wild flowers and sea-weeds, made by children under the age of fifteen.

We learn from the *City Press* that the Cooks' Company have completed arrangements with the National Training-School of Cookery by which twelve girls of the City Ward Schools (from which a special class has been formed) will have an elementary education in simple cooking and general domestic economy.

The Victoria (Philosophical) Institute held a meeting on Monday evening—the Rev. R. Thornton, D.D., in the chair. Several new members were elected, and it was announced that 107 had joined during the past year. A paper on Christianity Considered as a Moral Power was read by Professor Lias, of St. David's College, Lampeter. A discussion ensued.

Handel's oratorio "Solomon" will be performed at Exeter Hall, next Friday, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, under the direction of Sir Michael Costa. This work—one of Handel's latest compositions—contains some of his finest airs and choruses. Madame Edith Wynne, Miss Julia Wigan, Madame Patey, Mr. H. Guy, and Mr. Maybrick are the principal vocalists.

Captain Shaw's annual report on metropolitan fires, which shows an increase of forty-two on the average of the last ten years, contains the names of firemen who are commended for special merit in saving life during the year. They are—William Dowell, eight lives; William Rhymes, six lives; Stephen Holden, three lives; William W. Dum dell, three lives; G. Blandford, two lives; and F. M'Nutt, one life.

The British and Foreign Sailors' Society has recently received the following contributions from corporations in the city of London:—The Fishmongers' Company, £52 10s.; the Drapers' Company, £21; the Clothworkers' Company (annual subscription), £10 10s.; the Skinners' Company, £10 10s.; the Trinity Board, £10 10s.; the London Dock Company, £10 10s.; the P. and O. Company, £10; and the London Assurance Corporation, £10.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week (the second of January) was 83,738, of whom 38,796 were in workhouses and 44,942 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in the years 1876, 1875, and 1874, these figures show a decrease of 3675, 15,799, and 21,792 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 681, of whom 489 were men, 158 women, and 34 children under sixteen.

Further discussion took place, on Wednesday, at a meeting of the St. George's guardians, respecting the high mortality amongst children in the Carlisle-place Convent. A resolution was passed expressing the deepest regret of the guardians at the large number of deaths, and censuring the managers for having continued to receive fresh inmates in the face of such mortality. A motion was also carried that, in the opinion of the board, all institutions which undertake the complete maintenance of infant children belonging to the poor should be placed under Government supervision.

Parliament-square, which has already furnished sites for the public monuments of Lords Derby and Palmerston, has recently received an addition in a bronzed statue of the late Sir Robert Peel. The figure of the great statesman is placed on a plain granite pedestal, and represents him as he was wont to appear in the House. The likeness is said to be excellent. It is stated that it is contemplated to erect other monuments of departed statesmen in Parliament-square. Those of Lords Derby and Palmerston face Palace-yard; the present addition is on the north side of the square.

The Postmaster-General has issued notice that, on and after Feb. 1 next, telegrams for banks, counting-houses, offices, and other places of business in the city of London which may arrive on Sundays, and after eight p.m. on week days, will not be delivered until the following morning, unless a request be made, in writing, by the addressers that such telegrams may be delivered immediately on their arrival. The department hopes by this means, without causing inconvenience to the public, to put a stop to the loss or delay of business telegrams which not unfrequently occurs through their being overlooked or mislaid after delivery at places of business which are closed.

The Council of the National Rifle Association have, in view of the next Wimbledon meeting, made some alterations in the targets and reductions in the sizes of the bull's-eyes. There will be rectangular instead of circular "outers." The many "highest possible scores" obtained at 200 yards during the past two years rendered it imperative to reduce the bull's-eye for that distance, while the few made at 500 and 600 have induced the council to adopt the Government "bull" for those distances. The term "centre" is to be dropped for Wimbledon, and the portions into which it is to be cut are to be called "inner" and "magpie" respectively.

The Mansion House Inundations' Relief Fund amounts to nearly £8000.—The Home Secretary received a deputation from the Commissioners of Sewers of the City, on Tuesday, who laid before that right hon. gentleman a scheme, under the Artisans and Labourers' Dwellings Act, embracing thickly-populated areas in the vicinity of Fetter-lane, St. Luke's, and what used to be known as Petticoat-lane, the total estimated cost of which was £284,000. Mr. Cross, in reply to the representations of the deputations, said he did not think there was a single corner in the schemes of the City or of the Metropolitan Board of Works that he had not visited, and he should immediately place the scheme now submitted to him in proper hands to be inquired into.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, yesterday week, a deputation from Fulham, consisting of owners of property and occupiers of premises, who had suffered severely from the effects of the recent floods, was introduced. They presented a memorial earnestly intreating the board to render

immediate aid, with a view to the effectual resisting of any further inundations on the occurrence of the high tides with which they were threatened by scientific authorities in the course of next week. The memorial was referred to the Works Committee. A similar course was adopted with regard to one from Limehouse.—A conference of local authorities representing the districts in the Thames valley that have suffered greatly during the late inundations was held at the City Terminus Hotel, on Wednesday. The meeting blamed the Thames Conservancy Board for want of proper management, objected to the constitution of that board, and formed an association to be called "The Thames Valley Floods Prevention Association."

A quarterly court of the Governors of the Seamen's Hospital (Dreadnought), Greenwich, was held yesterday week—Mr. Joseph Moore in the chair. It was reported that 501 seamen had been admitted as in-patients to the hospital during the past quarter from British and foreign ships, of which number 140 came from London, 36 from Liverpool, 28 from Glasgow, 14 from North and South Shields, 15 from Hull, and 268 from thirty-four other ports in Great Britain and Ireland. The secretary regretted to have to report that the balance-sheet for the year ending Dec. 31, 1876, showed a deficiency of £1539 6s., being upwards of £400 in excess of last year's deficiency. Not a single legacy of any importance had been left to this society since the Dreadnought was broken up and the hospital removed on shore. The average amount received every year in legacies before the society left the old ship was £2180, but during the last six years the average receipts from this source only reach £700 per annum. The Duke of Northumberland will preside at the annual meeting, on Feb. 7.

A WEEK'S BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

Last week 2516 births and 1358 deaths were registered in London. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 26, and the deaths 397, below the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 100 from smallpox 24 from measles, 23 from scarlet fever, 4 from diphtheria, 25 from whooping-cough, 22 from different forms of fever, and 16 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 214 deaths were referred, against 235 and 253 in the two preceding weeks. These deaths were 41 below the corrected average number for the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The fatal cases of measles, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and whooping-cough were, in the aggregate, less than half the corrected average weekly number. The deaths referred to fever were 19 below the corrected average: 3 were certified as typhus, 17 as enteric or typhoid, and 2 as simple fever. The deaths from smallpox, which had been 97, 75, and 116 in the three preceding weeks, were 100 last week, of which 34 were certified as unvaccinated, 31 as vaccinated, and in the remaining 35 cases the medical certificates did not furnish any information as to vaccination. In 29 of the 52 fatal cases of smallpox occurring last week in private practice in London, no information as to vaccination was given in the medical certificate. Medical practitioners are requested to add this information in all their future certificates relating to smallpox deaths. In comparing, however, the numbers of deaths occurring among vaccinated and unvaccinated persons, it should be remembered that there are probably now in the London population fully nine times as many vaccinated as unvaccinated persons. The deaths from smallpox included 39 in the Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals at Homerton, Stockwell, and Hampstead, 5 in the Highgate Smallpox Hospital, 2 in the Kensington Workhouse, and two in the North-street Infirmary, Poplar; the remaining 52 occurred in private dwellings. The Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals, which have 900 beds available for smallpox, contained 873 patients on Saturday last, against numbers increasing steadily from 185 to 859 in the eleven preceding weeks. Many cases were necessarily refused admission during the week. During a period of nine weeks 3285 deaths were referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, a number which was 924, or 22 per cent below the average number in the corresponding week of the ten preceding years, corrected for increase of population. Different forms of violence caused 51 deaths; 45 were the result of negligence or accident, including 28 from fractures and contusions, 6 from burns and scalds, 3 from drowning, and 6 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Thirteen deaths were caused by horses or vehicles in the streets.

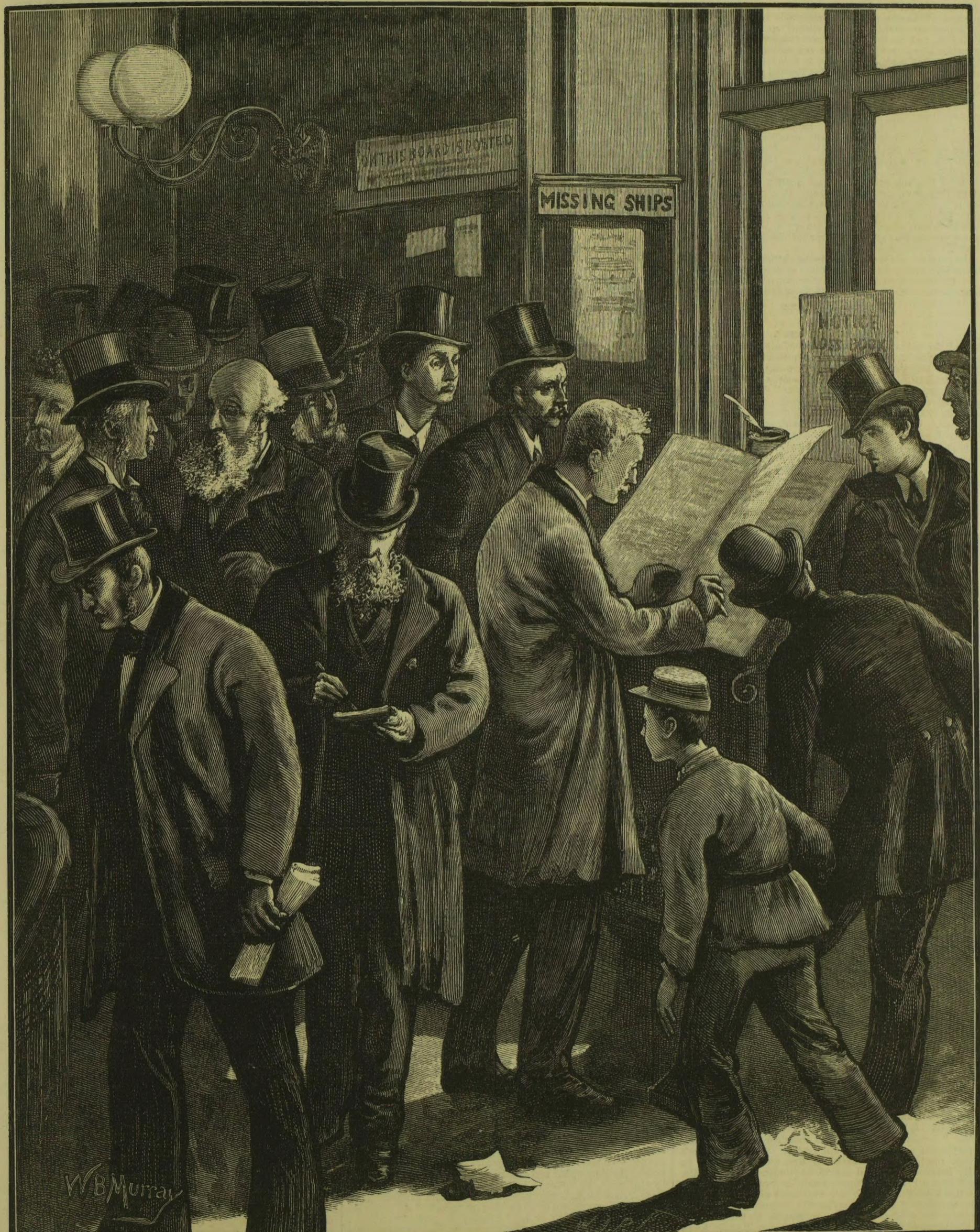
ALTERATIONS IN THE NAMES OF STREETS.

The Metropolitan Board of Works has decided upon the following alterations in the names of streets within the limit of the metropolitan district:—Milton-place, Pierrepont-terrace, Cumberland row, and Camden-passage, Islington, will be incorporated under the name of Camden-passage, and the houses re-numbered. The name of Lare-street for a new street to lead out of Allen-street, Kensington, has been sanctioned, on the condition that no barriers be at any time erected or other obstructions caused to the free use by the public of the said street. Charlotte-row and Walbrook, City, will be incorporated under the latter name, and the house at present numbered 4, Charlotte-row, will be re-numbered 39, Walbrook. The name of Ralston-street has been approved for a new street on the Cadogan estate, Chelsea, on the condition that no barriers be at any time erected or other obstructions to the free use of the public of the said street. Old Paradise-row and Rosamond-buildings will be re-named Islington-green, and the houses re-numbered with consecutive numbers. Earl-street, Blackfriars, will be re-named Upper Thames-street, in continuation of the existing street of that name. The board has approved a plan on behalf of the Chartered Gas Light and Coke Company for the formation of a new road to connect Sand's End-lane and Imperial-road, Fulham, and of the name of Emden-road for the same, on the condition that no barrier be at any time erected or other obstruction caused to the free use of the public of the said streets; Grosvenor-place, Gloucester-road, and Alfred-street, Camberwell, will be incorporated under the name of Gloucester-road, and the houses re-numbered; Regent-street, Horseferry-road, Westminster, will be re-named Regency-street. The alteration of this name was strongly opposed by the Local Board of Works, but the Metropolitan Board decided, as there were three Regent-streets in the same postal district, it was expedient that the name of the least important one should be altered. The name of Summerfield-villas, Evering-road, Stoke Newington, will not at present be abolished; Upper Cranfield-road, Deptford, will be incorporated under the latter name, the subsidiary names abolished, and the houses re-numbered; no changes will be made at present in the numbering of the houses in Campden-hill-road, Kensington; the name of Jesmond-street will be applied to a new street to lead out of East-street, Newington, on the condition that no barriers be at any time erected or other obstructions caused to the free use by the public of the said street.

It is the intention of the directors of the Dublin and Wicklow Railway, without further delay, to construct a second line of rails from Kingstown to Bray.



THE LATE STORMS: PASSING PROVISIONS THROUGH THE SURF TO THE BISHOP'S ROCK LIGHTHOUSE, SCILLY ISLES.



THE LATE STORMS: THE "LOSS-BOOK," A SKETCH AT LLOYD'S.

The Extra Supplement.

"THE ARMOURER'S DAUGHTER."

BY G. CATTERMOLE.

The picturesque surroundings of feudal times possess an undying charm in themselves and their associations. The romance of chivalry still lives in these our more prosaic, but enlightened, days; and all that recalls, as in the picture before us, aught of the poetry and feeling of that period is sure of welcome. With the name of Cattermole is identified much of the pleasure modern art has opened up to us in this class of subject, and, in the picture here engraved, we have the suggestion of an incident for the realisation of which, to our mind's eye, but little imagination is demanded. The young Lord, tired of hawk and hound, has strolled from the castle to the armourer's room, where, with walls well hung about with sword and shield and bows, the old man, sitting amid a pile of dinted helms and battered breastplates, dilates with accustomed garrulity on the mighty prowess of some former Lord, in which the blade he handles was the trusted weapon. But perchance the young man's thought is of the fair girl standing beside him—a form he has seen grow into maiden beauty as his boyish heart has warmed from companionship to love. With look askance, the sitting youth eyes their trusting confidence, and reads a passage in their history they never have thought on. She plucks the petals from a rose—idly, 'tis true—dreaming, perhaps, of its foreboding voice. But cruel fate will shortly wake her from her gentle reverie. Love, like Death, ignores distinctions; but the armourer's daughter must not hope for the occupancy of the lady's bower in yon lordly pile.

The original water-colour drawing hangs in South Kensington Museum, and is an admirable example of the master at his best period, combining great power of composition and colour with the most dexterous felicity of touch.

MUSIC.

THE QUEEN'S THEATRE.

"Biorn," the new opera, produced on Wednesday evening, is the composition of Signor Lauro Rossi, director of the Royal College of Music at Naples, the book being the work of Mr. Frank Marshall. The leading incidents and the dramatic action are based on those of "Macbeth"; but the scene is transferred to Norway, the names of the characters being necessarily changed. The haglike witches of the English tragedy are replaced by three fascinating Norni, or Fates; and an underplot is added, by which jealousy is added to the motives that impel the hero in his criminal career. These licenses are great; but may, perhaps, find some excuse by the precedents of liberties previously taken by adapters of Shakspearian subjects for operatic composers—French, Italian, and German. In the construction of his book, Mr. Marshall has laid out some situations well calculated for dramatic and musical effect, which in the latter respect might have been turned to far better account than they have been by the composer of "Biorn," in the whole five acts of which it is scarcely possible to point to any manifestation of original musical thought or dramatic power. The prevalence of dance-rhythm gives a tone of frivolity that is in violent opposition to the serious nature of the subject; and this was conspicuously the case with the closing music of the opera, at the tragic catastrophe of the drama. The pieces that stood out most favourably in contrast with the other portions of the music were the trio for Biorn, Rollo, and Sigurd, near the end of the first act; Rollo's serenade, in the third act; and the chorus for the Queen's waiting-women, in the fourth act—the last being the best piece of vocal writing in the opera.

Some omissions were made in the performance, owing to the indisposition of Mrs. Fitzsimon Marshall, for whom an apology was made before her first entry. This lady represented the character of Elfrida (Lady Macbeth); but, under the circumstances, it would be unfair to enter into criticism. Signor Mottino, as Biorn (Macbeth), displayed not only high merit as a vocalist, but also considerable power as an actor. Some of his music (poor and trifling as it generally is) was admirably declaimed, and in several of the principal dramatic situations this gentleman's acting was forcible and impressive without exaggeration. The part of Rollo (Banquo) also found an excellent representative in Miss Cora Stuart, who produced a very marked impression in several instances, particularly by her rendering of the serenade already specified, and her good declamation in the air, "Ambition," in the fourth act.

The remaining characters were generally well filled—the three Norni by Misses Riccobono, Clare, and Warwick; Hela (Hecate), Mdlle. Christine Corandi; Sigurd (Duncan), by Mr. Dymott; Ulf, Hako, and Eric (Earls of Norway), by Messrs. G. Coventry, C. Howard, and D. Stone, &c.

"Biorn" has been well placed on the stage, with some excellent scenery by Messrs. Gordon and Harford, and brilliant costumes; and there is also some good ballet action. Signor Tito Mattei conducted the performance with care and energy.

The resumption of the Monday Popular Concerts last week has already been noticed. The Saturday afternoon performances in association therewith were also resumed in the same week. The programme in this instance, and at the second evening concert of the year, on Monday last, presented in each case much attraction and variety. On Saturday Schubert's otet, for string and wind instruments, was admirably rendered, the distribution having been as follows:—First and second violins, MM. H. Holmes and L. Ries; viola, Mr. Zerbini; violoncello, Signor Piatti; contrabass, Mr. Reynolds; clarinet, Mr. Lazarus; horn, Mr. Wendtland; and bassoon, Mr. Winterbottom. Mdlle. Marie Krebs gave an excellent rendering of Beethoven's "Sonate Pathétique" for piano solo, and was associated with MM. H. Holmes, Zerbini, and Piatti, in Mozart's pianoforte quartet in G minor. Mr. Sims Reeves was the vocalist, and sang Beethoven's "Adelaide" in his own incomparable style, having been encored in Signor Piatti's serenade "Awake, awake" (which included the composer's fine playing of the violoncello obbligato). Monday evening's selection comprised Mendelssohn's first quartet (op. 12, in E flat); Beethoven's second pianoforte trio (in G), with Mdlle. Marie Krebs as pianist; Chopin's rondo for two pianofortes, in which the lady just named was associated with Miss Agnes Zimmermann; and Brahms's series of "Liebeslied Walzer"—the piano-cello duet accompaniment played by these ladies, and the vocal portions sustained by Mdlles. Sophie Löwe and Redeker and Messrs. Shakespeare and Pyatt; the same vocalists having given, with much effect, Schumann's quartets, "Es ist verrathen" and "Ich bin geliebt." The exquisite rondo of Chopin and the charming lieder of Brahms, were given for the first time at these concerts, and pleased greatly. At each of the concerts referred to Mr. Holmes suddenly replaced Herr Straus as leading violinist, this gentleman having been called abroad in consequence of a severe domestic bereavement. Sir J. Benedict was the accompanist on Saturday, Mr. Zerbini having fulfilled the office on

Monday. Herr Straus is to reappear at the afternoon performance of to-day and at Monday's evening concert.

Herr Herman Franke has resumed his interesting chamber concerts—this season in the concert-room of the Royal Academy of Music—himself being the leading and solo violinist. The opening performance of the series took place on Tuesday evening.

The second of the new series of the London Ballad Concerts took place on Wednesday evening, when a varied selection of popular vocal music was rendered by several eminent vocalists, including Mr. Sims Reeves. Madame Arabella Goddard contributed some brilliant pianoforte playing.

Haydn's "Creation" was given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society on Thursday evening, under the direction of Mr. Barnby; the solo-singers announced having been Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss José Sherrington, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Signor Foli.

On Thursday next the anniversary of Robert Burns's birth-day will be musically celebrated at St. James's Hall by the performance of Scottish national songs, including the co-operation (as announced) of Madame Antoinette Sterling, Misses José Sherrington and Annie Sinclair, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Thurley Beale, and two vocalists of repute from Scotland.

Mr. Kuhe's Brighton Festival will take place, in the dome of the Royal Pavilion, on Feb. 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21, and 22, under the direction of Mr. Kuhe, who, at some of the concerts, will be assisted by Mr. Arthur Sullivan. The orchestra will consist of about forty-eight of the best London instrumentalists, and the chorus will be that of the Brighton Harmonic Society, under the direction of Mr. R. Taylor; organist, Mr. Crapps. Among the works to be performed will be Handel's "Messiah," Haydn's "Creation," Verdi's "Requiem," Mr. J. F. Barnett's "Ancient Mariner," Madame Sainton-Dolby's "Legend of St. Dorothea," Mr. Arthur Sullivan's symphony in E, and Mr. Frederic Clay's new cantata, "Lalla Rookh," composed for the festival to a libretto written by Mr. G. A. Wills. Among the artists who will assist in the performance of the above-named works and at the miscellaneous concerts are Madames Sherrington, Patey, and Edith Wynne; MM. Sims Reeves, Lloyd, Cummings, Campobello, Maybrick, and Foli; and Madame Arabella Goddard and Mr. Kuhe will be the solo pianists.

A correspondent, writing from Glasgow, says:—"For many years the irregularity of congregational singing has engaged my attention, and I have, at last, found a method for securing absolute precision. It is this: In front of a clock's pendulum place two panels attached below by a Y spring and sliding hoop, so that in common time the pendulum will be seen between them; and in triple time, when they are drawn together, a segment of the pendulum will be seen at the outer sides alternately."

NEW BOOKS.

An intimate acquaintance with the majority of the "ologies," and especially with palaeontology, anthropology (including ethnology and craniology), glottology (including philology and entomology), geology, and mythology, is required for a proper understanding, let alone an adequate appreciation, of *Etruscan Bologna: A Study*, by Richard F. Burton (Smith, Elder, and Co.); and "caviare to the general" is an expression which but faintly describes the adaptability, or rather the inadaptability, of the volume for the tastes and comprehension of the ordinary reader. How universal is the gallant author's learning, how indomitable is his resolution, how vigorous is his execution, how persistent is his industry, everybody knows; and his researches in "the venerable ex-capital of Northern Etruria" show that, in all those respects, his old reputation has been well maintained. Very few, however, of his pages are within the range of any but the most erudite "ologists." That the results of his investigations were nevertheless intended for the mere tourist, as well as for others, is evident from his own language. He begins by promising never to borrow from the guide-books, and premising that the sooner they borrow from him the better for them. The book is divided into three "parts." The first part contains some remarks, breathing a spirit of personal enthusiasm, upon New Bologna, upon Old Bologna, and upon certain public and private collections of antiquities. In the second part we are invited to go and visit the very sites whence the collections were dug up; we are taken to the Certosa, to Casalecchio, to Marzabotto, to Misanello, to Misano, and in each case we are treated to some learned observations and criticisms, the value of which can be properly appraised by none but a professed antiquary. In the third part we are summoned, having "seen the arts and industry, the temporary abodes and the eternal homes of the Circumpadane Etrurians," to bring our work of examination to a close and "interview what is left of the man himself." This is the part where it would be of the greatest advantage to be thoroughly versed in most of the "ologies." It is considered advisable to begin with a "geological sketch of early Italy," in all its phases, at various "epochs." After this the learned author is moved to "offer a few remarks," as, long-winded preachers are wont to say, "concerning the successive immigrations into the Italian Peninsula, which finally brought the Etruscans." At this point a thorough master of anthropology, comprehending such branches of that science as craniology, glottology, and even anthropophagy, cannot fail to be deeply interested and to long for the wings of a dove that he might fly away and pay the recommended visit "to the learned anatomist and naturalist Prof. Commendatore Luigi Calori," who is affability itself towards anthropological inquirers, whose "study, behind the theatre where he lectures, contains nineteen old Etruscan skulls," and who "will at once point out their resemblance to the 'massive and grandiose Roman *calvaria*.'" In discoursing about the origin of the Etruscan language, the author takes occasion to make a fierce onslaught upon the Rev. Isaac Taylor's "Etruscan Researches," remarking, with facetious bitterness, that the "Family pen" was never employed to worse purpose. What especially rouses our author's ire is the assertion that "the ultimate and surest test of race is language"—an assertion which, together with others enough to make "the geographer and anthropologist stand aghast," is met by argument, by instance, and by the authority of Prof. Karl Vogt, Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte, and other shining lights. The conclusions drawn by our author, as regards "the Etruscan tongue, are:—1. That it may possibly be proved 'Italiot'; 2. That its origin and its affiliation are at present mysterious as the Basque; 3. That, whereas almost all previous authorities had advocated some form of the great Indo-European speech, Mr. Taylor has made himself a remarkable 'Turanian' exception; and 4. That certain Finnish 'affinities' deserve scientific investigation." Some pages are devoted to the consideration, with specimens, of the very scanty "inscriptive literature of the Etruscans;" and the volume concludes, save for an appendix, with a short, but very interesting, essay upon the "modern Bolognese tongue." From the description given of the book, it will probably appear that the contents, though

some of them convey information intelligible and attractive to everybody, especially to travellers unaware of what has been brought to light by archaeological research in the neighbourhood of Bologna during the last few years, are, on the whole, more than a little "over the heads" of ordinary readers, and, valuable as they undoubtedly are, would find full and due appreciation among the members of some scientific society, and among such persons only.

A respectful horror is excited by merely imagining what a vast number of dry books a gentleman must, at any rate, have tried to read; and what a vast number of hard nuts he must, at any rate, have tried to crack, before he could accomplish the task which has led to the publication of the two portentous volumes—portentous as regards both size and subject—entitled *English Thought in the Eighteenth Century*, by Leslie Stephen (Smith, Elder, and Co.). One might readily believe that the author, having completed his work, was never seen to smile again, as the historians and the novel-writers have it; and that a similar smilelessness would be the fate of anybody who should attempt to read the two volumes through continuously, unless, indeed, as is most probable, a deep sleep should fall upon him and save him from himself. Taken piecemeal, or rather in regular consecutive doses of so many pages every so many hours, every other day, the volumes might be found to be a wholesome and not disagreeable mental aperitif as well as sedative; particularly in the case of those persons who, for want of something better to do, are always pursuing "a number of ontological, theological, ethical, psychological, and logical inquiries." The best idea of the labour and industry which the author must have brought to bear upon his work will be gained from the following statement. His two volumes are divided into twelve chapters, and at the end of every, or nearly every, chapter he has given a list of the writers who have supplied him with material for his study and observations, and whose writings, be it remembered, from the nature of the case, must or should have been not merely consulted, as if for the sake of a fact or a date, but read, marked, learned, and digested. Well, the number of them is prodigious, and the surmised ponderosity of them is enough to appal the stoutest heart, and send a shudder all down the strongest back. At the end of the first chapter we find the names of eleven different writers; at the end of the second, none; at the end of the third, twenty-seven; at the end of the fourth, twenty-nine; at the end of the fifth, one; at the end of the sixth, one; at the end of the seventh, one; at the end of the eighth, thirty; at the end of the ninth, twenty-two; at the end of the tenth, twenty-three; at the end of the eleventh, eight; and at the end of the twelfth, forty-nine. It is true that, though the names are all different in each separate list containing several, yet the same name occurs in two or three or more lists, so that the sum total of the writers studied cannot be fairly calculated at a couple of hundred or more, as would otherwise be the case; but, on the other hand, the voluminousness of some few among the writers has to be taken into consideration. It may be safely concluded then, that, if Mr. Stephen was not called upon to make himself thoroughly master of whatever was written during their lives by two hundred different writers, he was, nevertheless, called upon to make himself thoroughly master of, perhaps, more than two hundred different writings. And the worst of it is that a reader who would thoroughly appreciate the value of what Mr. Stephen has accomplished in his two volumes ought, properly, to go through the same preparatory course as Mr. Stephen himself may be considered to have gone through; for the two volumes contain what is rather a collection of critical commentaries than anything else—a sort of work which, abundantly evident as the critical commentator's mastery of his subject and general acumen may be, can never be satisfactorily investigated by readers who have not at their fingers' ends the questions upon which the criticisms and the comments are made. Nor can it be said that Mr. Stephen conducts his readers, save to a very partial extent, into the more delightful and more profitable regions of thought. His bias is evidently metaphysical and theological; and his original scope appears to have been mainly the latter. Yet those two regions of thought are probably the most barren and profitless that any human being can survey. Mr. Stephen asks, as regards metaphysical questions, "Why are these studies, so apparently fruitless, so perennially fascinating?" One would be disposed to answer—to whom are they fascinating? Why, to the few, not to the many: to the few who are not as other men are; who rejoice in speaking a sort of language not understood of the people; who adopt a strange terminology; who are among thinkers what the Ritualists are among Churchmen; who delight in "knagging," like so many women, over a hair; who seem to be always attitudinising and hugging themselves in the consciousness of their own cleverness; who, having picked a hole in some system or creed, remind one of little Jack Horner, his Christmas pie, the plum he picked out, and his self-laudatory exclamation. It is a comfort to be told, on Mr. Stephen's own authority, that such robust thinkers as Burke and Dr. Johnson had no stomach, and had even a contempt, for what is generally known as metaphysics. And when we see on what shifting sands the metaphysicians build, one being continually toppled over by another, we cannot help wondering whether it is worth anybody's while to inquire what they thought or to what conclusion their thought led them. It was to perfect scepticism, as we know, that Hume was led; and yet we find the arch-sceptic confessing that his doubts vanished as soon as he left his study. When Mr. Stephen, in his second volume, deals with moral philosophy, political theories, political economy, and literary characteristics, then, indeed, he enters upon a field upon which most readers can, and will gladly, follow him, while they pick up many a hint that will enable them to see a great deal which had hitherto been invisible to them between the lines of the men who thought and wrote in the eighteenth century.

At the present crisis of the Turkish Empire, it need scarcely be observed, the publication of honest and impartial accounts of any lengthened residence in its disturbed European provinces is most opportune. The second edition of *A Residence in Bulgaria*, by Captain S. G. B. St. Clair and Mr. Charles Brophy, appears under a new title, as *Twelve Years' Study of the Eastern Question in Bulgaria* (Chapman and Hall). The book was originally written about ten years since, but Captain St. Clair has seen no cause to alter his opinions, which are vehemently hostile to the Christian subjects of Turkey. He bestows large praises on the Mussulman country population, at least of the Osmanli-Turkish race, within a certain distance of Constantinople or Adrianople. But he does not palliate the gross defects of the official administration, while he declines, on the other hand, to put faith in modern schemes of reform. His ideal seems to be a revival of the older, simpler, and less vexatious methods of Turkish rule, with the redress of fiscal and other special grievances, but sternly denying the claims of a different nationality, and the pretensions of the Greek Church. His detestation of Russian intrigues and interference is frequently expressed with considerable force. Another volume, by Mr. H. C. Barkley, C.E., is that bearing for title

Between the Danube and the Black Sea (Murray). The author is a civil engineer, who was employed between 1857 and 1870, with his two brothers, in constructing the Kustendje and the Varna and Rustchuk lines of railway. He writes in a much pleasanter spirit and style than Captain St. Clair or Mr. Brophy; and he is free from their bitter prejudices and animosity against the Rayahs, while he shows no dislike of the Turks as a people. His testimony is fairly borne to the existence of intolerable abuses in the provincial government, the practice of great iniquities, cruelties, and acts of extortion. The "zaptieh," or armed rural policeman, seems to be the universal scourge of the provinces, while the venality and corruption of some officials, and the apathetic indolence of others, leave the natives a prey to all manner of local oppression, against which those of the Christian community have no defence. But the greater part of Mr. Barkley's interesting recollections deal with the lighter topics of personal adventure, anecdotes of travelling, sporting, and household life, of social conversation, business, and labour. It is but a limited part of Turkey, that corner of Bulgaria north of the maritime range of the Balkans to the Dobrudscha, with which we are here made acquainted; but it is not the least important, in view of a probable Russian invasion.

Two junior officers of H.M.S. Challenger, employed from the winter of 1872 to the midsummer of 1876 in a voyage of scientific discovery all round the globe, have produced acceptable books. These are the *Log Letters from the Challenger*, by Sub-Lieutenant Lord George Campbell (Macmillan); and the *Cruise of H.M.S. Challenger*, by Mr. W. J. Spy, assistant engineer (Sampson Low and Co.). Both narratives may be read with interest; but that of Lord George Campbell is really delightful, more especially in its descriptions of many remote islands in the Atlantic, the Southern Ocean, the Pacific, and the Malay Archipelago, with an inland Japanese trip from Yedo to the temples of Nikko. Lord George is an ornithologist, and devotes particular attention to the strange and beautiful varieties of the feathered race, the penguins of Tristan d'Acunha, the far-flying albatross and frigate-bird hundreds of miles from land, the splendid parakeets and lories of Fiji and the Moluccas, the bird of paradise, and other marvellous winged creatures. He has also a pleasant way of making us acquainted with the native people, wherever they are found at all amiable, giving a due preference and pre-dominance to the more amiable sex. His book, which is written in a lively, unaffected, and agreeable style, seems to be made up of letters originally addressed to a lady friend at home. Mr. Spy's account of the cruise is not so well composed, in a literary point of view, and dwells rather too much upon the sojourn of the Challenger's party in Australia, at Hong-Kong, and in other places which are pretty well known; but the volume is furnished with some good engravings, as well as a chart of the entire voyage. It also gives minute details of the scientific apparatus and methods of operation used by Professor Wyville Thomson to explore the currents and bottom of the deep sea.

Facts About Sherry (Ward and Lock) is a shilling handbook as readable as the subject treated is palatable. Mr. Henry Vizetelly takes for his text the subjoined lines from Pasquill's *Falinodia*—

And all drinks stand with cap in hand
In presence of Old Sherry;
Then let us drinke old Sacke, old Sacke, boyes,
Which makes us blithe and merry.

And in order that he might speak with authority on this popular wine Mr. Vizetelly paid a visit in the autumn of 1875 to the districts of the south of Spain whence our supply of sherry is derived. There he had the good fortune to witness the vintage in several Jerez and San Lucar vineyards, to see the process of treading and pressing the grapes, and to become familiarised with all the mysteries of soleras, besides gathering a host of "Facts About Sherry" in the many bodegas he was privileged to enter. Mr. Vizetelly has embodied all this information in a profusely-illustrated brochure, which should be welcome for its store of valuable hints to everybody interested in wines. So ably, indeed, has our author accomplished the task he set himself that "Facts About Sherry" will, in all probability, restore sherry to that high place in public esteem from which adverse criticisms and other causes may have temporarily deposed it. Beginning with the grape harvest, and then proceeding to the method of pressing the juice from the fruit, to the fermentation, to the infusion of "no more than one or two per cent" of spirit, to the use of the young wine "to replenish the lowest scale of the solera," and to the difficult process of "blending," Mr. Vizetelly imparts what he has gleaned in a lucid, clear style, that greatly adds to the interest of the book. He is especially felicitous in disposing of the charges made against sherry that it is a "plastered" wine; and he proves by his "Facts About Sherry" that "unquestionably, when met with at its best, under conditions in which few people drink it in England, because they lack the courage and common sense to pay the due price for choice qualities, sherry has but few superiors among the white wines of the world." We may add that Mr. Vizetelly was wine juror for Great Britain at the Vienna Exhibition, and the author of "The Wines of the World Characterised and Clasped," a worthy companion volume to "Facts About Sherry," respecting which we may say, in parting, as some connoisseur said of a choice wine, it leaves a farewell relish.

The Duke of Marlborough, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, was on Saturday last presented with congratulatory addresses from the Corporation of Dublin, the University of Dublin, and the Royal College of Surgeons. In answer to the University address, his Grace said he deemed it a fortunate circumstance that it was his lot to fill the office of Lord Lieutenant at a time when increasing material prosperity was diffusing happiness around, and when education was spreading the healthy influence of moral culture over the people. His Excellency arrived at Killarney on Monday evening. He was presented with an address by a deputation of the Town Commissioners, to which his Grace replied, thanking the people for their kind reception. The Duke then proceeded to Muckross Abbey, the seat of his son-in-law, Sir Ivor Guest.

The annual meetings of both the Essex Agricultural Society and the Essex Chamber of Agriculture were held at Chelmsford yesterday week. Mr. James Round, M.P., presided at the former. Sir Charles Du Cane was elected president of the society for 1877, when the annual show is to be held at Chelmsford, the dates fixed being July 3 and 4. The prizes will amount to about £1500, and will include a new challenge cup, value 100 gs., presented by Mr. D. M'Intosh, for the best short-horn in the yard, the last cup having been finally won by the Rev. R. B. Kennard. The last report stated that the last show was the most prosperous the society has ever held. The income for the year was £2726; there is a balance of £255 in hand, and the number of members is 940.—At the meeting of the Essex Chamber of Agriculture Lord Carlingford was unanimously elected president for the ensuing year, and Sir Charles Du Cane was elected vice-president.

LAW AND POLICE.

Formerly, when a barrister was elevated to the Common Law Bench and took the degree of the coif, he was rung out of his inn, and only reappeared as a visitor on grand days. Under the new system a Judge does not cease to be a member of his inn, and Mr. Justice Hawkins dined at the Middle Temple, yesterday week, in his character as bencher. As this was the first time he had appeared since his promotion, he was warmly greeted by the barristers and students as he passed down the hall. Mr. Justice Hawkins was entertained, on Tuesday evening, at the Albion Tavern, by the members of the South-Eastern Circuit, at a congratulatory banquet to celebrate his elevation to the Bench. Mr. Serjeant Ballantine presided, and a distinguished company from the Bench and Bar were present—Mr. Justice Lopes will be entertained at dinner by the past and present members of the Western Circuit Bar Mess, on Saturday, Feb. 3, at the Albion, Aldersgate, in honour of his elevation to the Bench.

In the Exchequer Division of the High Court, on Saturday, the Lord Chief Baron expressed his great regret at the reduction by the Government in the number of Judges from eighteen to fifteen, in consequence of which, he said, very frequently indeed public justice could not be administered; and Mr. Justice Mellor, in the Queen's Bench, complained that, from want of accommodation, two Judges were compelled to sit together, when they might sit separately if sufficient courts were provided.

At a meeting, on Monday, of the Law Amendment Society, presided over by Mr. Hopwood, M.P., a paper was read by Mr. Serjeant Cox on the subject of Reform in the Procedure of Magistrates' Courts, in the course of which he adduced several special reasons why such procedure should be as simple and as intelligible as possible. The county courts had already done this, and had found no difficulty in the working of it. What should be done in the initial process was to assimilate the magistrates' court to the county court. After a discussion, the paper was referred to the repression of crime committee.

Mr. Forsyth, Q.C., M.P., will preside at the thirteenth annual meeting of the United Law Students' Society, to be held at Clement's Inn Hall, Strand, on Monday evening next.

Application was made, on Wednesday, before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council for the prolongation of the patent granted for improvements in sewing-machines for boots and shoes. The invention had met with great obstruction from trades unions, and one of the proprietors had been stoned by a mob for introducing it. After a long investigation Sir Robert Collier gave judgment, describing the invention as meritorious, and stated that their Lordships would advise her Majesty to grant an extension for seven years.

The Court of Appeal has confirmed the decision of the Master of the Rolls restraining the Great Western and Midland Railway Companies from opening a portion of the Clifton Extension Railway, which had been reported upon unfavourably by Colonel Yolland.

A diver on the coast of Queensland was the means, last year, of recovering from a wreck, which was haunted by sharks attracted by the corpses, a box containing £9000. The Colonial Admiralty Court awarded him about £3000 as salvage, and the owners of the gold, appealed against the sum as excessive. The Judicial Committee dismissed the appeal.

A sporting man, named Higginson, who had given information to one Simpson about a horse, upon which Simpson won several bets in a Liverpool race, sued the latter in a local court and won £50 as the amount of a bet which he had instructed Simpson to make for him. The Judges in the Common Pleas Division have reversed that decision, on the ground that the transaction was void under the Games and Wagers Act.

A claim against Reuter's Telegraph Company for sending by mistake to a merchant at Valparaiso an order for barley, whereby the plaintiff lost considerably, has been decided by the Common Pleas Division in favour of the defendants, on the ground that the obligation of a telegraph company is to the sender of a message, and not to the receiver.

The Fulham District Board of Works have obtained an injunction in Chancery restraining the Metropolitan District Railway Company from raising their line at three points in the Fulham district where, it was said, a sewer was needed.

Vice-Chancellor Malins gave judgment, on Monday, in a suit instituted for the purpose of ascertaining what persons were entitled to £40,298 9s. 5d., paid by the Brazilian Government to Lord Dundonald, as the executor of the late Lord Dundonald, in respect of the services rendered by the Earl to that Government; and for the administration, so far as might be necessary, of the Earl's personal estate. The Vice-Chancellor ordered £10,668 18s. 10d. to be paid to Lord Dundonald, and, after providing for the claim of a Mr. Earp and the costs in the case, directed the residue to be divided into four parts and carried to the respective separate accounts of Lord Dundonald and his brothers, and their incumbrances.

The will case of the Earl of Longford against Wellington Purdon and others is again before the Court of Probate in Dublin, the amount involved being about £5000 a year. A previous verdict on an ejectment case, held in Mullingar, before Mr. Baron Dowse, against the testamentary capacity of Mr. Cooke, was set aside, and this is a new trial.

A dispute between Marquis Townshend and a married sister, Lady A. Sherson, came before the Master of the Rolls. The Marquis has paid sums of money due to his sister towards the reduction of her husband's debts, and until 1870 she had given receipts for the money so applied. She now sought to make her brother responsible to her for the money that had been paid on behalf of her husband. Ultimately a compromise was agreed on, the Marquis undertaking to pay Lady Sherson the income since 1870, when she ceased to give receipts.

Some time ago Mr. Christie, a clerk in the India Office, living at Kew, was convicted by the Richmond magistrates of an attempt to defraud the South-Western Railway Company. He appealed to the Quarter Sessions, and the conviction was quashed. Mr. Christie thereupon brought an action against the railway company for malicious prosecution, and the case came before Mr. Justice Field, with a special jury. The company expressed their regret for what had happened, stating that they could only act upon the reports of their servants, and consented to a verdict for 100 guineas.

A jury in the Common Pleas has awarded £100 to Mrs. Barnham, a cook and housekeeper, living at Reigate, as compensation for the loss of an eye in consequence of a fall over the raised coal-plate in the footpath in front of some houses in Bermondsey, of which the defendant was a trustee.

In the Exchequer Division, on Monday, a washerwoman, named Richardson, living at Battersea, obtained a verdict against the London and North-Western Railway Company for £150 damages for injuries sustained at Battersea station.

Two hundred and fifty pounds damages were, on Wednesday, given in the Exchequer Division for severe injuries sustained by Mr. Siemans, a dealer in jewellery, through being knocked down by a van of the Midland Railway Company while he was crossing the road in High-street, Aldgate.

The widow of a master tailor, named Womack, was awarded £3000 for his loss, in an accident on the Great Eastern Railway, by a jury at the Norwich Assizes. The company appealed, on the ground that the damages were excessive, and a new trial was ordered. It took place in London, and the jury gave her £4500. On Monday an application was made to the Chief Baron for a new trial, on the same ground as before, and the application was granted.

At the Central Criminal Court, last week, the Grenadier Guardsman, M'Connon, who kicked a comrade to death in the guard-room at the Chelsea Barracks, on the night of Christmas Day, was sentenced to be hanged. Thomas William Christian, for attempting to poison Mrs. Bailey, at Charlton, was sentenced to eight years' penal servitude. Samuel Coates, who had been convicted of manslaughter, was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. Henry Appleby, who had been found guilty of offences under the Bankruptcy Act, was ordered to be imprisoned and kept to hard labour for nine months. On Saturday a licensed victualler, named William Wood, and George Bowyer, a barman, were found guilty of unlawfully conspiring together to induce licensed victuallers who required a barman to engage Bowyer through false representations. Wood was sent to prison for eighteen months and Bowyer for nine months, each with hard labour.

At the Middlesex Sessions, last week, John Williams, several times previously convicted, and Mary Ann Scott, were, for attempting to obtain money by false pretences, sentenced respectively to eighteen and six months' hard labour. A hawker, named Ann Mills, was sentenced to prison for eighteen months for stealing a child. The trial of William Lawrence, the spiritualist "medium," ended on Tuesday. The Assistant Judge, in summing up, said that the question the jury had to consider was not whether the prisoner made false pretences to supernatural power, but whether it was his intention to cheat and defraud by inspiring a belief in his possession of that power. The jury found a verdict of "Guilty." The Assistant Judge, in passing sentence, said it was clear that the prisoner had been getting money for some time past by impudent and ridiculous pretences, and sentenced him to be imprisoned as a second-class misdemeanant for three months. The Court had no power to impose hard labour.

In the copyright case at Westminster County Court, wherein Mr. J. D. Besemeres, a dramatic author, sued Mr. Henderson, lessee of the Criterion Theatre and proprietor of the Folly, to recover damages for an infringement of his copyright in a play called "Married Daughters and Young Husbands," which was produced at the Criterion as "Mother Carey's Chickens," his Honour has given judgment for the plaintiff for the amount claimed—viz., £50, reserving the question whether only one penalty should be awarded.

Frederick Treadaway was again brought up at Westminster on Monday, charged with the wilful murder of Mr. John Collins, at 99, Stanley-street, Pimlico; and also with attempting to murder Mrs. Collins. Since the last examination a bullet had been extracted from Mrs. Collins's neck, and a gunsmith stated that this bullet resembled the one produced by the doctor who made a post-mortem examination of Mr. Collins. The prisoner was committed for trial on both charges.

Robert Eddy, described as a servant, pleaded guilty, at Marlborough-street, on Monday, to the offence of obtaining a situation by means of a false character, and was fined £20, with the alternative of three months' imprisonment.

An old woman has been sent to prison for six weeks, by the magistrate at Clerkenwell Police Court, on a charge of pretending to tell fortunes, and receiving money for so doing.

Charles Graham, alias Charles Lever, aged twenty-one, who described himself as an actor and a theatrical agent, was charged, at Lambeth, on Tuesday, with stealing from Stephen Maskell £10 by means of a trick. The prisoner caused advertisements to be inserted in various newspapers, stating that a messenger of good character was required, who would have to deposit £10 cash as security. To this advertisement Maskell replied, and was engaged at a salary of £1 a week. For some days he was chiefly employed in taking advertisements to the newspapers offering salaries to theatrical engagements to persons who were to deposit £10 each "as security." The prisoner paid him for three or four weeks, and then said he could pay him no more wages, as he was bankrupt. The £10 was not returned. Another man named Brown stated that he was similarly engaged by the prisoner, and deposited £5. Upwards of 1000 letters in answer to the prisoner's sham theatrical advertisements were found in his house when he was taken into custody. The magistrate was told that two young women were in attendance who had paid 5s. each to the defendant to give them lessons to play in the "Hunchback," and he told them they would be on the stage in a fortnight. They were to pay him £2, but they could give only 10s., and were to pay the remainder when they obtained engagements. Mr. Chance remanded the prisoner for a week, but agreed to take bail, two sureties in £10 each, with notice.

At Worship-street, on Wednesday, Frederick Charles William Jenning was charged on remand with stealing a watch and a purse with money from two young women with whom he had pretended to "keep company." In both instances he chose the moment of parting to commit the robberies. Another charge was gone into, and the prisoner was committed on the three charges.—At Salford, last week, Thomas Eastwood, alias Thomas Edward Butterworth, alias Smith, was found guilty of obtaining from Jane Hodge, of Withington, three boxes of wearing apparel, under the pretence that he was about to marry her. The Recorder described the prisoner as a "designing scoundrel," and committed him to gaol for fifteen months, with hard labour.

Alarming news from Zululand is telegraphed from Cape Town, via Madeira. Cettywayo, who was formerly favourable to the occupation of the disputed territory by British troops, now refuses to give his assent to that arrangement; and it is rumoured that he has not only returned unopened a letter sent to him by Sir Theophilus Shepstone, but has collected 8000 warriors in a large kraal on the disputed border.

The British Enterprise, 1620 tons, Captain John Greig, chartered by the Agent-General for South Australia, left Plymouth, on the 11th inst., for Port Adelaide, with 440 emigrants, among whom were seventy-five single domestic servants. — The Agent-General for Queensland has just received a telegram from that colony of the safe arrival of the Scottish Hero with emigrants, and that the whole of these have received ready employment, and that more are urgently required.



SCENE FROM THE CHILDREN'S PANTOMIME AT THE ADELPHI.



SCENE FROM "HYLDEMOER," AT THE POLYTECHNIC



ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL CHURCH, TRURO.

THE LATE R. T. LANDELLS.

The death of Mr. Robert Landells, in his forty-fifth year, was mentioned last week. It is sincerely regretted by all who had been associated with him at the office of this Journal and by a large number of personal friends. He belonged to a family which has been connected with the modern institution of the illustrated newspaper from its very beginning. His father, the late Ebenezer Landells, a native of Newcastle-on-Tyne, was a pupil of Thomas Bewick, and was one of the school of wood-engravers and designers or draughtsmen on wood founded by that eminently original master of the art. He came to London about 1829, and found employment in the illustrated periodical literature of that day. He was one of the enterprising men, skilled in their respective departments, who projected and started *Punch*, soon afterwards taken in hand by Messrs. Bradbury and Evans. In 1842 he became connected with the *Illustrated London News*, then in the first year of its existence. He was commissioned to attend upon the visit of the Queen and Prince Consort to Scotland, and to furnish the sketches and engravings for its illustration. Upon several occasions, both in this country and on the Continent, similar work was performed by Ebenezer Landells. His death, at the age of fifty-one, took place in the autumn of 1860. Mr. Robert Thomas Landells had before that time entered upon his career as a "Special Artist," not having attempted, like his father, the business of engraver. He was sent out by the *Illustrated London News*, in 1856, to the seat of war in the Crimea, and some of his sketches, though less prominent than those of Mr. J. A. Crowe, Mr. E. A. Goodall, and other Artists, appeared towards the end of that campaign. Shortly after the peace with Russia he went to Moscow for the coronation of the Emperor Alexander II., and supplied the Illustrations of that grand ceremonial. In the winter of 1863, and the following spring, the war between Germany and Denmark, in Schleswig-Holstein, gave occasion for Mr. R. T. Landells to exert his special talent in delineating various incidents of military life, and the figures and movements of soldiery. His subsequent opportunities for studying and practising that class of subjects were most extensive. He accompanied the first Prussian army corps, under the command of the Crown Prince of Prussia, in the war of 1866 against Austria, and the march towards Vienna. By special permission, Mr. Landells was attached to the staff of his Royal Highness, where his personal behaviour won him the lasting regard of some of the most distinguished Prussian officers. The advantage thus gained was still more valuable to him in 1870, during the war between France and Germany, when the high character and engaging manners of our Special Artist, already well known to the Crown Prince and his staff, secured his instant admission to the same privileges, giving him the earliest and best chance of observing and sketching the operations

of that great war. He continued at the head-quarters of the Crown Prince at Versailles, where also was held the Court of the Emperor of Germany during the siege of Paris; while another of our Special Artists, Mr. Simpson, was present at the capture of Metz and Strasburg. Mr. Landells received from the Imperial Government of Germany, upon a special recommendation from the Crown Prince, the order of the Iron Cross, bestowed in recognition of his meritorious conduct and labours in that war, particularly remembering his exertions to aid in the relief of the sick and wounded soldiers in the winter campaign on the Loire. This ended his military experiences. He did not, of late years, undertake any important foreign mission; he chose rather to practise oil-

painting, or to make studies of quiet and homely scenes, bits of riverside building at Lambeth or Chelsea, seaside views on the Dutch coast, old houses, or boats and shipping. A small collection of his war sketches was lent to the Alexandra Palace for the Balaclava Festival in the October of the year before last; and one or two finished pictures by him, in oil colours, were in the International Exhibitions at South Kensington. He executed also many drawings in water colours, some for the Queen, by express command of her Majesty, as memorials of her state ceremonials, journeys, and visits to different places. In addition to the German war medal, he was honoured with decorations conferred by the King of Bavaria and the King of Denmark; and he was an acceptable person in society at home or abroad. He married a granddaughter of Liston, the comedian, a daughter of the late Mr. G. Herbert Rodwell, the musician and composer, but this lady died three or four years ago, leaving him with several children. His funeral, at Brompton Cemetery, on Saturday last, was attended by some of the gentlemen, artists, literary men, and others, who had been associated with him in active life.

The Portrait of Mr. Landells which we have engraved is from a photograph by Messrs. Fradelle and Marshall of Regent-street.

THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

"Hyldemoer, the Witch of the Elder-Tree," is a Danish Fairy Play, by Hans Christian Andersen, which has been translated by Mr. Edward Rose. This forms the dramatic portion of the Christmas entertainments at the Polytechnic. It is effectively recited by Mr. Seymour Smith, who varies the tone of his voice with almost a ventriloquist's power, while the actors on the stage suit the action to the words. The story is laid, above and below ground, in Denmark. It opens with a dissolving view, in which spirits are present to inform us of their lords' and masters' wish to marry. These potentates are the four Elements—namely, Earth (a Mole), Air (King of the Butterflies), Fire (Will-of-the-Wisp), and Water (a Merman and Maid), the latter a troublesome child, who continually "wants to go home." They discover that they are all in love with the same lady, the loveliest of her sex, who is a barber's daughter in Copenhagen. They agree to assume mortal form, each in the hope of making a favourable impression on her. The Mole, like all ugly people, is more particularly confident of his good looks. They depart; and their journey o'er land and sea is illustrated by an excellent panorama by Messrs. Leitch and Hill. Scene the second shows the exterior of the barber's house, with Peter, the apprentice, about to set out on his journey through the world. While bidding farewell to the shop, he is joined by Marie, the barber's lovely daughter, who condoles with him, refers to the pleasant times they passed beneath the old elder-tree, presents him with a blossom, and sings a song in its



THE LATE R. T. LANDELLS.

praise. They end by becoming betrothed; but here the four Elements appear, disguised as a cellarmen, a householder, a matchmaker, and a diver. These gentlemen wish to be shaved, and, while the barber and his apprentice are lathering the cellarmen (Mole) and the diver's iron helmet, the other two make love to Marie. To this Peter objects; the rival suitors combine, and hustle him off the premises. The Mole, who is left behind, sinks into the ground with Marie. When the others come back they all look for her, and find the Mole has carried her away. They each promise the bereaved father they will endeavour to find her and punish the Mole—an agreement being made that whoever shall bring her back is to marry her. Peter is in despair at not being able to do anything; but to him appears the Witch of the Old Elder-Tree, who is pleased with the song she heard Marie sing. She gives him a magic elder-bough, which will help him, and with it he sinks into the earth. His adventures there, in search of Marie, and the troubles of the Mole, tormented by the other spirits, are well represented in a couple of dissolving views. Peter finds Marie, and scene the third shows them seated at home beneath the Old Elder-Tree. The spirits, except the Mole, come to congratulate them. The King of Butterflies takes off his wings and presents them to Marie as a wedding gift, which pretty action is shown in our Illustration. The others promise to give several appropriate things; and all ends happily in singing the song of "The Old Elder-Tree." The managers of the Polytechnic may be congratulated upon the success of this novelty. Mr. Rose's admirable adaptation of the graceful Danish fancy is an undoubted advance, from a literary point of view, on the ordinary Christmas stories. The piece is intelligently acted by Messrs. Lightfoot, Usher, Higgs, and Fuller, Misses Clifford, Smith, and Bailey; but a special word of praise is due to Miss Beamish, as Marie, for her rendering of the song of "The Old Elder-Tree."

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, TRURO. The new Cornish bishopric, legally founded by an Order of the Queen in Council, pursuant to the Act of Parliament last Session, has its cathedral in the ancient parish church of St. Mary, in the town of Truro, from which the Right Rev. Dr. Benson henceforth takes his episcopal title. We give an Illustration of the old church at Truro. That neat and pleasant little town, or city as it will hereafter be called, is situated 230 miles south-west of London, not far from Falmouth. It has never been a place of great historical importance. The name is considered to take its derivation from two words of the primitive Celtic language, "Tre" and "Euru," meaning the house on the river; the latter word occurs in the names of other streams, both in Britain and in Brittany or Western Gaul. Truro stands on the banks of a small river or creek flowing into Falmouth harbour. It was a port for the trading-vessels of those foreigners who came to procure tin from Cornwall, long before the Roman conquest of Britain. Under the Norman kings of England, the Earl of Cornwall, a prince of the Royal family, had his castle at Truro, but of this only the site can now be shown. The privilege of coining money was granted by King John to the borough of Truro, which also received an early municipal charter, and its Mayor was then likewise Mayor of Falmouth. Mining and agricultural industry have kept up its modest prosperity, but it has been superseded by Bodmin as the county sessions and assize town. The parish church, after being first dedicated to St. Pancras, was consecrated anew to St. Mary. It was built in the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII., and its main body continues in fair preservation, a fine specimen of Tudor Gothic; but the tower and spire, of tasteless modern design, must be condemned as spoiling the architectural effect. The rectory is in the patronage of the Earl of Mount-Edgecombe; but some arrangement will be made, we suppose, with the sanction of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, to put this Church on the footing of other Cathedrals. It has been proposed that the Bishop of Truro should be also Dean of Truro, as he will be in constant residence, not having a seat in the House of Lords.

SCENE FROM "GOODY TWO-SHOES." Our Illustration presents the pantomime characters, familiar to us of old time, as represented by professional men and women, but now, for the first time, at the Adelphi, by infant prodigies. Here we have the Clown by one Master Bertie Coote, Pantaloons by Master Meadows, Harlequin by Miss C. Gilchrist, and Columbine by Miss Carrie Coote. Novel as the business must have been to these children, they have adapted themselves to it with such cleverness as perfectly to gratify the public by exceeding all expectation in the degree of success which they have realised. The morning performances, in which they appear, continue to be patronised by appreciative audiences.

The English Eleven have been beaten by the Sydney team in a cricket-match.

The establishment of a soldiers' institute at Gibraltar has been undertaken by several gentlemen, with a view of supplying to the garrison of the rock a place where a soldier can pass his evenings in the enjoyment of rational recreation. The sum of £4000 will be necessary to carry out the objects in view, which are associated with the names of Lord Napier of Magdala and the Bishop of Gibraltar.

POLITICAL ITEMS.

Captain King-Harman was, yesterday week, returned without opposition for the county of Sligo, in succession to the late Sir Robert Gore Booth. He is a supporter of the present Government, but promises to vote for Home Rule, denominational education, fixity of tenure, and a reform of the grand jury laws.

Mr. James Delahunt, Home Ruler, and Mr. Frederick Lehmann, Liberal, were, last Saturday, nominated to represent the county of Waterford. Mr. James Esmonde, brother of the late member, was nominated, but resigned, although he was the candidate adopted by the Roman Catholic clergy at a meeting held in Dungarvan. The polling was appointed to take place on the 19th inst.

Sir Robert Anstruther contradicts a report which, it seems, has got into circulation, that he intends to retire from the representation of Fifeshire.

The following speeches of public men were given on Thursday week:—

The Earl of Shrewsbury, speaking at a Conservative banquet at Burslem, said that the Premier had done the best thing that could be done for this country in the Eastern crisis. He insisted on the necessity of religious education. Mr. Campbell, M.P., responding for the House of Commons, said his view of the Eastern Question was that, so long as our Indian possessions were not threatened, he did not see why we should interfere on the side of Turkey.

The members for Plymouth addressed a large gathering in the Guildhall. Mr. Bates declared that Mr. Gladstone's policy was intensely unpatriotic. He could see no reason why England should take part in the contest so long as Russia kept her troops out of Turkish territory; but if she did not England's duty would have to be very seriously considered, for, at all hazards, Constantinople must be protected from Russia. Mr. Sampson Lloyd justified the increase of the income tax by the necessity for increased pay to the soldiers, but expressed a desire to see property taxed in a less inquisitorial form than at present. Lord Beaconsfield's Guildhall speech was probably made with a knowledge that the Czar had proposed to Austria a division of Turkish territory. Mr. Lloyd was in favour of preserving European peace at the price of considerable concession, but he would protect the just interest of England, and would not hand over the subject populations of Turkey to the worse tyranny of Russia.

Mr. W. Holms, the member for Paisley, addressing his constituents, said he was favourable to autonomy in the Christian provinces. Mr. Holms was of opinion that we had no cause to fear Russia. He thought Russia had right to complain that her ships were confined to the Black Sea.

Mr. U. J. Kay-Shuttleworth, M.P., lecturing on Egypt, at Hastings, said:—Egypt is deeply in debt, and more heavily taxed than ever; the extravagances of former Pashas have been succeeded by the speculations, the display, the reckless outlay of the present Viceroy; punishments, if not so barbarous as formerly, are a refinement of cruelty; slavery, if abolished in name, exists in reality; forced labour has been partially superseded, and is still carried on, without even the sort of consideration for the family, the village, and the district with which conscription for military service is usually enforced; the new courts have secured for Europeans a justice still denied to the native subjects of the Khedive, and administration is at least as corrupt as it is short-sighted and oppressive.

Sir Charles Legard addressed his constituents at Scarborough. Alluding to the Queen's adoption of the title of Empress, he said the change would be received with satisfaction by the peoples of India, and would strengthen their affection for the Empire. With regard to the Education Act, he objected to the system of compulsion, and should be sorry to see it enforced upon the people of this free country. He expressed his intention of opposing the Burials Bill, as he believed it was designed as the "thin edge of the wedge" of ultimate disestablishment.

Last Saturday Mr. Fortescue Harrison, the member for the Kilmarnock Burghs, and Mr. Adam, member for Alloa, addressed their constituents. Mr. Harrison said the Conference at Constantinople was not likely to lead to any good, because Turkey did not believe that Lord Salisbury spoke the voice of England. If the ultimatum was declined we should ally ourselves with Russia and those Powers which insisted on it. It was unfortunate that our foreign policy should be dictated from St. James's Hall rather than from Whitehall, but that arose from our Government not being in harmony with the nation.—Mr. Adam criticised the vacillating character of our foreign policy, and expressed his opinion that the country had been saved from the calamity of war with Russia mainly through the decided course of action which had been taken by Mr. Gladstone. He still hoped for a satisfactory solution of the Eastern Question through the influence of England and the diplomacy of Lord Salisbury.

Sir Charles Russell, M.P., presided, on Monday, at the ninth general meeting of the members of the London and Westminster Working Men's Constitutional Association, and, after the adoption of a report from the executive committee of a satisfactory character, made a speech, in the course of which he reviewed the principal events of the past year. The following speeches were delivered last Wednesday:—

Dr. Cameron and Mr. George Anderson, the Liberal members for Glasgow, addressed a

large meeting of their constituents in the City Hall—the Lord Provost presiding. Dr. Cameron condemned the foreign policy of the Government on the Eastern Question. He adverted to various measures that had been before Parliament during the past Session, and appealed to Liberals to unite to secure victory for their party. Mr. Anderson spoke at some length on the Eastern Question, strongly condemning the policy of the Government and advocating a cordial alliance with Russia as the only means to prevent a great European war.

Mr. Adam addressed his constituents at Milnathort. He thought we could not congratulate ourselves on the result of the last Session of Parliament, and the mode in which business was conducted by the Government. It was not creditable to spend so much money over the proclamation ceremony at Delhi whilst various parts of India were suffering from famine. He spoke hopefully of the prospects of the Liberal party. Mr. Adam thought we should act cordially with Russia and the rest of Europe to secure good government for the Christians of Turkey.

Mr. Foljambe presided at the opening of a Liberal association at Rotherham. Mr. Earp, M.P. for Newark, and many leading local politicians, were among the speakers.

HEALTH OF SCOTLAND.

The Registrar-General of Scotland has been able, month by month, to report a mortality below the average in the eight principal towns of Scotland in 1876, and he closes the year with a return showing 2284 deaths registered in the month of December, being 887 below the average number for the month during the last ten years, allowing for increase of population. The 1135 marriages in the eight towns are 111 above the corrected average; but the 3505 births are not so satisfactory in number, and have been exceeded in December in three of the last four years. The mortality in the eight towns in the months now under review ranged from 18 per 1000 persons (per annum) in Leith to 26 in Aberdeen and Paisley. The zymotic (epidemic and contagious) class of diseases proved fatal to 338 persons. This is the lowest number of deaths from this class of diseases in any December since the Registration Act came into operation in 1855. Fever caused 67 deaths, of which 43 were from enteric and 16 from typhus fever; whooping-cough caused 52 deaths; scarlatina, 48; diarrhoea, 42; croup, 36; diphtheria, 28; measles, 22; smallpox, 1, in Aberdeen. The deaths from inflammatory affections of the respiratory organs were 638, and from consumption, 220. There were 112 deaths from diseases of the heart, 49 from paralysis, and 130 from premature birth debility. There were five suicides, and five deaths from intemperance. The meteorological returns show that December, 1876, was remarkable for low barometric pressure, unexampled depth of rain, and unexampled persistence of east wind; the mean temperature being at the same time above the average, and the wind unusually strong.

The gold cross of the Order of the Takova has been conferred on Miss Pearson and Miss McLaughlin, in recognition of their services with the sick and wounded during the late campaign in Servia. This is the fourth decoration they have received for similar services, the three others being for the Franco-German War.

The expediency of maintaining legal regulations, for a standard of purity in the manufactured precious metals, is a question of some commercial importance. Mr. Edwin Streeter, who is very well known in the trade, has contributed to the literary discussion of this subject in a small volume, entitled "Gold" published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus. It contains a translation, by Mrs. Brewer, of the German treatise, by Herr Arthur von Studnitz, concisely describing all the different provisions by law, now existing in various countries of Europe, for securing certain degrees of purity in the materials of gold and silver wares. The history of such legislation in past ages is rather curious as an antiquarian study, some anecdotes of which are here to be found.

By the present law in Great Britain, which does not extend to the colonies, all gold and silver ware manufactured in this kingdom must be tested and stamped, paying a duty, or fee for the cost of stamping, at the rate of 17s. the ounce for gold, and 1s. 6d. for silver. Watch-cases, chains, rings, settings for jewellery, and a few small articles, are exempt. There being 24 carats to the ounce, five different qualities or degrees of purity are recognised as legal standards of gold, from 22-carat gold down to nine-carat gold; the remaining parts may be of copper and silver or zinc. The gold coin of the realm is of the 22-carat standard. The French law is stringent and rather complicated.

In Prussia and Saxony, it appears, there is no legal restriction; but the silver manufacturers have lately petitioned for its establishment throughout the German empire. To this measure Herr von Studnitz is decidedly opposed. His arguments, which may here be read at length, are frankly combated by Mr. Streeter in the preface. Having, in his own trade, always persevered in offering only the eighteen-carat gold, Mr. Streeter consistently demands that the public—at least, in England—shall not be deprived of the existing security against a deception which no unscientific person can detect for himself. He further contends that the Goldsmiths' Hall mark should be put only on gold of the highest legal standard value. We merely indicate his view of the question, which may, perhaps, admit of being regarded in another way.

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NEW PIANOFORTE PIECES.
LES ARCH



THE EASTERN QUESTION: RECRUITS FROM SALONICA ARRIVING IN CONSTANTINOPLE TO BE CLOTHED AND ARMED.



THE EASTERN QUESTION: BUYING SHEEP FOR THE KOORBAN BAIRAM CEREMONY AT STAMBoul.

EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF OLD MASTERS AT BURLINGTON HOUSE.

We continue from last week our comments on this collection. The Spanish school is further represented by Murillo's six canvases, in one of which (270), "Landscape and Figures," we are introduced to a class of subject this painter rarely treated. This landscape will attract the attention of connoisseurs not only by its singularity of subject, but by the neutral tone in which it is wrought. Illustrative of the florid decoration of Paul Veronese are four allegorical subjects, placed in the corners of the large gallery (95), (103), (115), (126), exhibiting the largeness of his style in the treatment of similar works. In the two pictures of the famous master of the Venetian school, from the Royal collection, is that vivid perception of personality and glowing tone of colour that gives to Titian the high place he holds in the world's art. "Portraits of Titian and Andrea Franceschini" (107), introduce us to the painter and his friend, a Grand Chancellor of Venice, in whose thoughtful face is marked the impress of the responsibilities of office. The colour of this picture, unlike the majority of Titian's works, is less contrasted in chromatic arrangement than usual, though its sombre yet harmonious tone well accords with the dignity and sentiment of the heads. The second example (111) will also repay examination. To the single work of Philippe de Champagne, a "Portrait of Jean Pierre Camus, Bishop of Belley and Arras" (134), we refer as a fine example of a master not commonly known as a portraitist, but who has here left a striking instance of lifelike treatment in the head of a remarkable man. The characteristics of Paris Bordone's work are seen in 112 and 113, as "The Holy Family" (67), by Bonifazio, marks the manner of its author. In Sir Antonio More's fine "Portrait of Sir Thomas Gresham" (62) the founder of the Royal Exchange stands before us with an orange in his hand, which fruit he introduced into this country. Not only is this work one of historic interest, but of great beauty in point of art. Also, by the same pencil, is the small "Portrait of a Lady" (166), equally valuable as an example of that date. Belonging to the same period, and remarkable for elaboration of detail, is the "Portrait of Queen Mary" (171), painted by Lucas de Heere, and lent by the Society of Antiquaries. The four Holbeins will well repay examination. Between the earlier, conscientious, style of Frank Hals, as seen in the "Portrait of a Dutch Lady" (35), and the later, meretricious manner of that master, evinced in 29 and 38, is the difference separating thought from mechanism. The first-named work, by its careful rendering of individual character, modelling of surface, and thorough completeness, is one of the finest portraits in the collection, and places Hals in a far higher position than all the showy dexterities of his subsequent style.

Rembrandt, whose grand portrait of himself, in the first room (32), strikes like a note of challenge to the English masters hung about it in that apartment, in the originality of genius created a medium of his own imagination, through which he viewed all objects, tinging them as the mood or moment prompted. His light and shade, at once the most systematic and most powerful, was largely aided by his technical practice of carrying richness of colour into depths of shadow. His darks glow like gems in gloom, flashing into fire as the first rays of light impinge their recesses. For the climax of effect he levies all the resources of his palette, heaping up tint upon tint, until, with prismatic harmony, the chords of colour are focussed into one burst of dazzling brilliance. This portrait of Rembrandt (32), lent by the Marquis of Lansdowne, is an extraordinary work, even for the master hand producing it. The painter, advanced in life, is standing with palette and brushes in hand, heavy in stature and grizzled in locks, but with a keenness of gaze and power of touch revealed in the work, making it one of the finest of the many pictures for which he was his own model. In (130) the subject is subordinated to a study of light and shade and colour, and is within that category of his works wherein the realities of form are sacrificed to an ideal tone of illumination.

If in the art of a nation is contained the reflection of its life and spirit, our interest in the pictures of the Low Countries must depend rather on their treatment than their subject, which, though homely and familiar—nay, oftentimes vulgar—become invested with a lasting interest and beauty under the magic of their pencil. When the fashion to collect Dutch works was rife in this country a large number of the highest value found their way here; and those who are familiar with the treasures of this school at Buckingham Palace will understand how, under the example of the formation of that collection by his Majesty George IV., the fashion for the acquisition of such works became general through the land. In the present gathering, every department of their more familiar walk of art is well represented, whether portrait, landscape, genre, or still-life; and this less by the number of examples than by the high quality of those exhibited, as seen in such a work as her Majesty's contribution of the younger Teniers's "Village Festival" (52), which for all the qualities peculiar to this master is unapproachable. Apart from other merits of this work, a group of figures towards the mid-distance, on the right, is "put in" with such a charm of touch and clearness as to render hopeless the chance of its ever being surpassed. Other fine examples occur in 58 and 85.

"The Listener" (71), by Maas, is known as one of his most celebrated works; and the four subjects by Ostade are in his happiest manner. Terburgh, Mabuse, and Jansen are similarly represented, whilst Ruydsael, Van der Velde, and Hobbema, the latter especially in his "Landscape" (139), are equally fine. Cuyp, whose river scenes and dewy meadows have long since made him a favourite in this country, has no fewer than six pictures, the largest being "The Negro Boy" (133), so named from a black servant holding a horse in the middle of the picture; but for the most distinguishing elements of this painter's excellencies, Mr. Robart's two small contributions (76 and 78) take place of the others. Of the Ruydsael's, the "Forest Scene" (199) is the most agreeable, being less heavy and cold than his other works, and exhibits the detail of foliage as thoroughly well understood. Bergheem and Both, whose pleasant sunny pictures are eagerly sought out in all collections of Dutch landscapes, are here represented by a choice of works their warmest admirers will appreciate. By Everdingen, Wynants, Wouvermans, and Paul Potter, whose cabinet gem (73) is a most delicious example of landscape pencil, striking illustrations are ranged through the rooms. Of Van der Heyden, Backhuysen, Jan Steen, Eglon Van der Neer, Polemberg, and Slingelandt, characteristic specimens have been obtained, which, by their number and genuineness, render this exhibition an unusually favourable opportunity for the study of masters whose productions are amongst the most covetable riches of art.

In Gallery No. 4 is contained a large collection of early Flemish and Italian art, from the time of Giotto downwards. These specimens, obtained from the treasures of many well-known collectors, comprise examples of great beauty and rarity. Want of space alone prevents our detailed notice of them. We would, however, especially call attention to Fra Angelico's "Death and Assumption of the Virgin" (154) and

"Virgin and Child" (155); but to no work in the room will there attach so much interest for the general public as an "Ecce Homo" (158), taken from the house of King Theodore of Abyssinia at Magdala on April 13, 1868.

Referring to later English art, Sir David Wilkie and James Ward, R.A., are but feebly represented. Of George Stubbs, A.R.A., who eighty years ago was painting such works as the two here exhibited (256, 265), little is now known beyond his book on the horse. Bonington reveals in his little gems (4 and 5) the influences of foreign study; seaside freshness sparkles in Collins' (26); Crome and Cotman, of Norwich, the former in a "Moonlight" (14) and the latter in a "River Scene" (278), take their places among the great ones of our school. Two interesting features of old London are happily preserved to us by the faithful pencil of Samuel Scott, in his representations of Westminster Bridge in 1747 (254) and London Bridge in 1757 (292). Copley's spirited sketch for the "Death of Chatham," in the National Gallery, testifies to the power of a name now rarely met with. By Hopper, the once-powerful rival of Lawrence and Owen, are portraits of Lady Darley (253) and Lady Cunliffe (266). Zoffany's clever theatrical reminiscences (267 and 273) point to a style of subject now rarely attempted. Nathaniel Dance, R.A., and Francis Wheatley, R.A., exhibit the style of their day, now nigh forgotten. In the single canvas of Hogarth (17) we see a most exceptional instance to his general manner, which versatility few would anticipate. Coming to nearer times are Northcote and Burgess, Nasmyth and Havell. Nearer still is Etty, in his "Pandora Crowned" (258), a work of eight or nine figures, begun and finished in six weeks, exhibited at Somerset House in 1824, and bought by the President, Sir Thomas Lawrence. A small example only (3) of his early manner places the name of Mulready in the catalogue: and with that of Sir George Harvey, P.R.S.A., one of the most recent of "deceased" masters, we close our notes.

Mr. H. Weekes, R.A., ~~now~~ protracted illness, has resigned the Professorship of Sculpture to the Royal Academy.

The list of candidates for the Associateship of the Royal Academy, from which three will be chosen at the election on the 24th inst., exceeds one hundred in number.

LECTURES AT THE LONDON INSTITUTION.

HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH NOVEL.

Professor Morley gave, on Thursday week, his second lecture on the History of the English Novel, to a crowded audience. An abstract of the first lecture was given in our last Number. Alluding to Defoe, he said that he was really the founder of the modern novel, and in his works they had the first complete departure from the heroic style of the French romances. Then followed Swift, in whose stories there was the taint of insanity, which tinged all his works. Samuel Richardson's works were professedly novels. By his "Pamela" he earned for himself the distinction of being the originator of the modern form of fiction. Afterwards came Henry Fielding, who was a born novelist, and the greatest that England had ever produced, even to this day. In all Fielding's novels there was not one coarse expression introduced for its own sake or for the sake of raising a mean laugh; he always treated evil as evil, and coarseness as coarseness. Richardson's greatest novel was "Clarissa Harlowe," and there was no other work in the English language that took such a large hold upon the human heart. Fielding's "Tom Jones" was his greatest novel; he took all life for his theme, with its evil as well as its good—a high, noble spirit pervading it throughout. At heart it was essentially moral and pure, and was thoroughly earnest, and could be read by honest men and women to their advantage. In Smollett there was a good deal of vivacity and real spirit of fun; and "The Vicar of Wakefield" of Goldsmith was written in a charming style, full of true poetry, the incidents coming home to the hearts of men. After the "sickly sentimental" school, there came up a cynical style of writing. There undoubtedly was cynicism in Thackeray's writings, but there was also a childlike spirit, intended to represent to us the true spirit of humanity. In Charles Dickens they had the same generosity of feeling, with more of the emotional enthusiasm, and with a power to move to laughter or to tears. This emotional element was very strong in Dickens, and, perhaps, of all novelists he had had the most command of our tears and laughter.

HEALTHY HOMES.

Our last Number contained a summary of the first lecture on "Health Improvements in Great Cities," given by Dr. Richardson, F.R.S. The second and concluding lecture was given on Monday last. Dr. Richardson began by referring to the public interest that had been aroused on the subject, expressing his utter inability, for want of time, to reply to the mass of correspondence he had received. Further treating of his proposed model house, he said that the common practice of covering the walls with paper was a bad process in many points of view. It was cheap, it was sometimes pretty, it was convenient, but it was not conducive to health, while the paper itself sometimes gave off deleterious particles, and the paste with which it was held to the walls underwent organic decompositions in presence of damp, most papers holding dust, organic and inorganic. What was now wanted was a fabric that could be put up like paper, and that could be washed at any time, and so completely purified. In some parts of the house ornamental tiles might be used with great advantage; in other rooms an impermeable cement could be employed, and in others thin galvanised iron, the latter of which would prove exceedingly useful and durable, besides being ornamental. All walls which were porous and absorbed vapour were dangerous; they kept up perpetual damp, and often, while doing so, gave evidence of the fact. With regard to the fitting of walls for health's sake, Dr. Richardson criticised the decorative patterns used for beauty's sake, in which the same object or subject was manifoldly repeated. Such patterns produced a bad effect on the sense of sight, and through that sense on the nervous system, sometimes leading to giddiness and disturbance of the circulation. Equally bad were patterns which presented different pictures at different distances, and especially so were those which presented pictures of a disagreeable or repulsive character. In respect to the colouring of the walls, blue, green, rose-pink, and grey were the best colours to be used. The standard temperature of a room should be 62 deg. Fahrenheit. Men and women engaged in sedentary pursuits should begin the work of the day in this degree of warmth, and the diffusion of warmth should be so perfect that at all parts of the room the thermometer should indicate the same degree. All warming and ventilating should be from one centre into the room. To introduce cold air by doors, windows, and chinks, in order that it might become warm in a room by the heat radiating from an open firegrate, was to expend that air uselessly, to ensure draughts, to prevent the possibility of equable temperature, and to destroy warming and ventilation at one and the same time. The evils arising from gas the lecturer traced mainly to the escape of carbonic

oxide. He deprecated the use of gas under all conditions where ventilation was not excellent, and specially objected to its use in bed-rooms. Some improvements might be made in candles, but the great desideratum was the practical introduction of the electric light into household service. Science had provided all the elements of success for this introduction, and enterprise and capital were now only required to give to the house light as pure as that of the sun itself. In houses where water was stored there ought to be two cisterns at the upper part, one for the closet service and the other for drinking and other domestic purposes. In every properly constructed house there should be a room for the accident of sickness, a room that need not be useless at any time, but which in sickness would give every requirement, and which would isolate the sick in cases of infection. In conclusion, he contended that it was quite possible to make great cities as healthy as country places by removing the artificial plans and customs which, springing out of the barbarities of past ages, run counter to the interests of life.

THE PASSES OF THE BALKAN.

Colonel Evelyn Wood, V.C., C.B., Assistant Quartermaster-General, gave, last week, a lecture at the Prince Consort's Library, Aldershot, on the Passes of the Balkan and the Passage of the Danube. The chair was occupied by Lieutenant-General Sir Thomas Steele, K.C.B., commanding the division. Colonel Wood commenced his lecture by alluding to the principalities of Wallachia and Moldavia, and the important part they occupied in the present aspect of affairs, and more particularly the position of Bucharest and Jassy, two cities of considerable importance in the present crisis. Speaking of the province of Roumania, he said, although it had only a population of 4,000,000, it could easily supply double that number with food if they did not export, and in that case a Russian army of 250,000 men would have no difficulty in finding subsistence in that province. As to the difficulties of a Russian invasion of Turkey, the river Danube was the principal obstacle. On the left, or Russian side, it was approachable only by a long, low coast of muddy and marshy land, while on the right or Turkish side there was a precipitous and steep bank, which continued for many miles. The width of the river through the Turkish territory, too, varied from 1400 to 2000 yards, the depth differing according to the season. Another great obstacle to Russian invasion was the range of Balkan mountains, the passes in many cases being little more than footpaths, and the roads through Bulgaria being few and bad. The soil, however, is rich, and produces abundant crops; the meat supply also would be plentiful, owing to the difficulty of exportation. Colonel Wood then pointed out the natural advantages of Widdin, Silistria, and Schumla as fortresses, and the importance of the railway from Varna to Rustchuk, and quoted the writings of the late Sir John Burgoyne as an authority on the defences of Constantinople and its approaches. Comparing the relative strength of the Russian and Turkish fleets and armies, he said that Russian advantages were more apparent than real, but that if they could cross the Danube and the Balkan mountains they might advance on to Adrianople, and from thence to Constantinople.

MR. GLADSTONE ON TURKEY.

Mr. Gladstone, on Tuesday, gave a reading in the boys' schoolroom at Ilawarden, founded on a work published ten years ago by Miss Muir Mackenzie and Miss Irby, entitled "The Turks, the Greeks, and the Slavs; or, Travels in Turkey in Europe." The right hon. gentleman, in his introductory observations, said he had always held, and had ever contended in Parliament, that the English nation and the Government of England had been already over-weighted by the amount of their foreign responsibilities, undertaken from time to time; and that, consequently, he had always regretted any measures, from whatever quarter they emanated, which tended to increase them. That was no reason, however, why we should shrink from our duties; and that England had incurred responsibilities with respect to Turkey, he could not deny. He disclaimed all intention of meddling with the political part of the subject, limiting his purpose to an explanation of the internal government and state of Turkey and the condition of the Christian provinces, which are placed under a system of government that has no parallel in Europe. Twenty years ago, he said, England and France undertook the Crimean War with a view to secure better government for the Turkish provinces, and a solemn engagement was made by Turkey to cease her oppression and to emancipate the Christians; but, instead of this pledge having been redeemed, it was now, twenty years after that war, found that the condition of the Turkish provinces was worse than ever. God in his mercy grant that the wisdom, patience, and courage of Christendom might apply an effectual remedy to this state of things.

The Lord Chancellor, in opening new coffee-rooms for the working classes at Bournemouth, last Saturday evening, pointed out the impediment presented by intemperance to the moral and material improvement of the country, and looked upon such institutions as being calculated to remove many of the temptations by which working men are surrounded.

The Bishop of Winchester presided, yesterday week, at a large meeting, at the Townhall, Farnham, for the purpose of listening to an address by Mr. Buckmaster on the educational work of the Science and Art Department. The Bishop urged on all persons the study of art, which, he thought, had made considerable progress during the past thirty years. Mr. Buckmaster referred to the large increase of night classes for instruction in science and drawing as evidence of a gradually improving taste.

Mr. Arthur Arnold gave a lecture at Hull, on Tuesday evening, to the members of the Literary and Philosophical Institute upon "Eastern Life and Manners." He said it was an interesting coincidence that this was the first day of the Mohammedan year and of the Mohurrem. He trusted that the year 1255, according to the reckoning of Islam, would, in its course, bring improvement in the condition of the Mussulman as well as the Christian subjects of Turkey.

Mr. Phear (late Judge of the High Court of Judicature, Calcutta) read, in the theatre of the Society of Arts, on Tuesday evening, a paper upon "The Employment of Natives in the Civil Service of India." Sir George Campbell presided.

Mr. Neison, at the meeting of the Statistical Society, on Tuesday, read a paper, which gave elaborate and valuable statistics of the affiliated orders of friendly societies, the Odd Fellows and Foresters.

The newly-completed winter garden at Bournemouth (of which we gave an Engraving in our Number for Dec. 9), was opened, on Tuesday, by Sir Henry Drummond Wolff, M.P., who, in the course of a short address, referred to the necessity of such a building in Bournemouth, which would pass away the weary hours of those in quest of health. After the opening ceremony there was a concert by a London company.

THEATRES.

OLYMPIC.

The commencement of the really dramatic season may now with comparative safety be formally announced; and it has been inaugurated at the Wych-street theatre by the return of Miss Ada Cavendish to its boards, with a new play. The title of the drama is "The Queen of Connaught." It is divided into four acts, stated to be dramatised from "the popular novel of the same name." The names of the dramatists are not given, though we understand that Mr. Robert Buchanan is one. If so, the present drama is a marked improvement on his "Corinne," which had the misfortune of a collapse so lately at the Lyceum. The conduct of the action is, on the whole, satisfactory, and the several acts are worked up to a climax. The action itself is of a melodramatic kind, consisting of small incidents capable of being worked up into stage effects, and being produced as such with considerable power and skill. The characters are, on the whole, well and accurately drawn; but the dialogue might have been more carefully written. There is in it little of poetical sentiment, and its eloquence is of a very colloquial kind. The style is rhetorical rather than natural, with but few happy phrases and very little imagery. The interest is of the old-fashioned kind in Irish plays, in which the national character is exhibited as deficient in civilisation, rude in manners, and altogether wanting in morality and obedience to the law. The story might have been attributed to any period of the history of Ireland; but we are gravely told that it is of a contemporary kind, and that there are "parts of Connaught which are still under proclamation, and where a special 'permit' is required to carry arms." The authors confess, however, that "few cases of violence have occurred during the last two or three years." The subject of the present play is a case of violence, and the incidents are all cases of violence, differing in nothing from those which frequently occurred some half century ago. Do the authors mean to tell us that Connaught has failed to partake of the general improvement in other places? Perhaps. For what says the story? That an Englishman married an Irish lady of the O'Mara family, who, on the score of her ancestry, is entitled to the honour of being called "the Queen" of the locality. Her husband is a man of wealth, and anxious to dispose of it in the improvement of estates in the neighbourhood and the general condition of the people. But the vulgar still adhere to their own ways, and prefer a mud hut to a decent house, the native bog to a deal floor, a hole in the bottom of the mud to a regular grate for containing a fire, and another hole in the top of the ceiling for the smoke to escape by, to a regular chimney. Mr. John Darlington (for that is the name of the hero), is disgusted, and still more so with the rude measure of hospitality required by ancient custom, making his residence a sort of public tavern. All these things are native to Kathleen O'Mara, whom he has married, and the lady is as much disappointed almost as her tenantry at the coldness of his manner and the fastidiousness of his taste. She wonders, indeed, why he cannot leave things as they are, seeing that the people would be contented and happy with them, and resist all attempts at their improvement. Warnings of their dislikes are given in abundance, but Darlington bravely despises their threats and remonstrances. A former lover of "the Queen," Randal Dooneen, encourages rebellion against his authority, and even plans his assassination, hoping for an ultimate marriage with his "widdy." This fellow has already sought to drown a peasant girl whom he had promised to wed; but she is saved by Darlington, and in the last act comes forward to denounce the villain and exculpate the husband, who is supposed to have given up a kinsman to the law, seeking refuge in the castle and charged with manslaughter. It is Randal who was guilty of the meanness, not Darlington; and thus, in the end, Kathleen is made to see that her husband is a superior kind of person—one entitled to her obedience as a wife, and likely to reform the people resident on his estates. This notion of utilising the stage, by teaching from it the notions of political economy and giving the Irish a lesson in domestic morals, peradventure, merits encouragement, and is likely to receive it from the hands of an Olympic audience. The piece has been well mounted, and is, probably, as well acted as it can be. Miss Ada Cavendish distinguished herself as a declaimer in many passages of Kathleen, and acted the rôle throughout with evident care and precision. Mr. Neville, as the English husband, was quiet and characteristic, and won the sympathy of the house. The part of Randal Dooneen was supported by Mr. J. A. Arnold, an American actor, who made in it his first appearance in London. Mr. Flockton made a point with Anthony Dunby, the homicide who sought refuge from "the Queen"; and an Irish servant by Mr. W. J. Hill stood out as a speciality, cool and collected and ready for any atrocity. The drama was received with approbation, and, on the fall of the curtain, the principal performers were called forward and vehemently applauded.

ROYALTY.

A new play, slight in subject and structure, was produced on Saturday. It is entitled "Happy Hampstead," and gives opportunity for a picturesque view of the well-known heath. It is meant as "a musical pastoral," in one act; the words by Mr. Frank Desprez, and the music by Mr. Mark Lynne. The story is founded on an advertisement in the *Matrimonial News*, signed Amanda, proceeding from a young lady who desires to marry a nobleman. Of course, it is responded to by the Marquis of Kentish Town, and a meeting is arranged to take place at the heath on Whit Monday. The noble lover assumes the disguise of a costermonger, and the lady appears as a housemaid, who attracts the notice of a policeman, who has an assignation with a cook. Here are some cross purposes, which have to be reconciled. The policeman proves too vulgar for the Marquis, and the costermonger too sentimental for anybody else. Accordingly, he throws off his disguise and reveals himself as the correspondent of the hymeneal journal. There is some humour in all this. Mr. Walter Fisher was the nobleman, Mr. J. D. Stoye Amanda's father, Mr. Charles Kelleher the policeman, Miss Ella Collins the cook, and Miss Rose Cullen Amanda herself. The dialogue is of the opéra-bouffe type, interspersed with songs, and is amusing.

OPERA COMIQUE.

On Monday there was a change of performance at this theatre. Mr. Byron's "Prompter's Box" and his burlesque of "Little Don Cesar" constituted the entertainment, which was favourably received. The comedy has been a little altered, being now reduced to three acts. Mr. H. J. Byron, in the character of Fitzaltimont, retains his hold on the sympathies of his audience and secures the humour of the situation. The part of Frank Bristow is effectively supported by Mr. J. Macleam. The performers were recalled on the fall of the curtain.

We are informed that two of the savages in the Covent Garden pantomime, illustrated in our last issue, were represented by Messrs. Harry and Charles Raynor.

MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

"The Organ," a theoretical and practical treatise, by Frederic Archer. (Novello, Ewer, and Co.). This is a work of special value to students of the "King of Instruments," compiled by one who is eminent as a performer thereon. The volume—although moderate both in dimensions and price—is very comprehensive in its contents, which are divided into seventy sections, comprising descriptions of the construction and mechanism of the instrument, hints as to tuning, and the remedying of small accidental defects; a large collection of musical exercises and pieces, directions for accompanying the Church service, and many other important features.

Among recent publications by Mr. Czerny, of Oxford-street, are some brilliant and pleasing pianoforte pieces, calculated to interest students in various degrees of advancement. "Tarabouka, Danse Mauresque," by Robert Beringer, is a characteristic piece, of moderate difficulty. "Resignation, Andante varié," by A. Ergmann, is a pleasing, melodious theme, ingeniously amplified. "Figaro, Scherzo," by Karl Liebich, although brief and easy of execution, has much brightness of character. "Silver Snowflakes, morceau de salon," by Gennaro Bisaccia, is very animated in its dance-like rhythm. Two songs, also published by Mr. Czerny, deserve favourable mention. They are: "Those that we loved long ago," an expressive setting, by Berthold Tours, of some sentimental lines; and "In vain from clime to clime," by Joseph Romano, in which there is good scope for declamation, the general effect being much heightened by the addition of a violin (or violoncello) part—ad libitum—to the pianoforte accompaniment.

CONFERENCE OF SCHOOL TEACHERS.

A conference of teachers was held, yesterday week, at the Merchant Taylors' School, Charterhouse-square—Dr. Lyon Playfair, M.P., in the chair. Mr. Oscar Browning, M.A., explained the object of the gathering. It was called together under the auspices of the Teachers' Association, which was formed two years ago for the purpose of uniting all classes of teachers together for mutual objects. Very shortly after its formation it was thought that the best way of doing this was by holding a conference of teachers in London, and the first conference was held last year at King's College, and was very numerously attended. During the last year Dr. Lyon Playfair had kindly consented to be president of the association, and the Bishop of Exeter, Canon Farrar, Dr. Hodgson, and Professor Meiklejohn, were vice-presidents. The president then delivered his address. He said the main object of the association was to improve the education of the country by raising the qualification of teachers. He pointed out that until comparatively recent times teaching and medicine had been a common occupation, but that since they had become separated the medical men had organised themselves into a strong body, while the teaching body, which was much larger in number, had not obtained a recognition of their profession due to the importance of their art; and the fault was their own, and not that of the public. If a profession of teaching arose means must be taken to secure the methodical training of the teachers. Heaven-born teachers appeared at rare intervals, and training was as much required as in any other profession requiring knowledge and experience. The bill introduced by Mr. Forster in 1869, in reference to the supply of teachers for endowed schools, was well conceived; but it would not be wide enough for the present day, and if it were reintroduced it would be required for all classes of teachers. Dr. Playfair stated, further, that he objected to one examining body; and he thought that while the standard of qualification should be rigid, and should not be uniform, the teachers should endeavour to resuscitate Mr. Forster's bill. There was a great necessity for a Minister of Public Instruction, charged with bringing into harmonious co-operation our numerous educational agencies.

The conference was resumed last Saturday morning—Professor Meiklejohn presiding. The first paper was read by the Rev. A. Condor, of Bognor, on the desirability of obtaining a joint systematic periodical examination and inspection of schools. In the discussion that followed, several speakers insisted on the importance of having as examiners persons of experience in teaching, and it was observed that it was not sufficient to make a good examiner that he should have received a University education. Sir Charles Reed mentioned that in the School Board for the London teachers always took part in the examinations. The next paper was by the chairman, on the Life of Dr. Bell, the originator of the Madras system of education. It was a most able paper, though it had to be curtailed in parts from want of time. At the request of several in the audience, the chairman consented to the publication of his paper in the *Journal of Education*. The Rev. F. Davies read a paper on Gymnasia, in which he urged the importance of introducing gymnasia into schools as a means of exercising all the parts of the body. A really good set could be fixed in an ordinary class-room about 16 ft. high for £15, and could be easily cleared away, only a few hooks remaining. He earnestly commended the subject to their attention, believing that it would be a happy day for the boys and girls of England when a gymnasium was considered as necessary as boiled beef or the first Latin primer. Mr. Storr said he did not think gymnasia would take the place of games, and he doubted also whether all teachers would like to learn the practice in order themselves to instruct their boys. The Rev. A. J. D'Orsay urged that lessons should never continue longer than fifty or fifty-five minutes. Also that boys should not be sent out to play immediately after the chief meal of the day. A lady in the audience urged that ladies' schools should have gymnasia, and Dr. Langley, in reply, remarked that it was not at present the fashion for ladies to attend gymnasia, and they must get rid of that impression before girls' gymnasia would be established. Dr. Oppler said there were very successful ladies' classes in connection with the German Gymnasium at King's-cross. Mr. Colbeck, of Harrow, said if only the difficulty of dress could be got over there were three games very suitable for girls, which could be played anywhere—namely, lawn-tennis, squash-rackets, and fives. They supplied not only plenty of exercise, but the one thing without which no game could be considered perfect—fun.

The conference concluded with votes of thanks to the Merchant Taylors' Company for the use of the hall, and to the secretaries, Mr. Browning and Mr. Storr.

It is proposed that an annual festival, under the title of the National Olympian Festival, shall be instituted for the purpose of centralising the various associations having for their objects the encouragement of intellectual and of athletic contests, so that the intellectual and the physical contest may be brought into the same arena. This festival would be founded on the same principle and with the same objects as the Olympic games. Prizes would be offered for essays, poems, musical compositions, choral singing, &c.; and for success in the various kinds of athletic games. But the highest prize would be awarded to him who should exhibit the largest general power.

PEOPLE IN NOVELS.

If you will take a copy of Mr. Mudie's list of recent works of fiction, you will find that it contains the names of something like six hundred novels, most of them in three volumes. Though it is not probable that all of these made their first appearance during the last twelve months, yet, if you add to their number that of the stories published in the scores of weekly and monthly magazines that contrive somehow to exist, the grand total will reach quite five hundred in the year—a dreadful fact in itself, but not the one on which we wish now to dwell.

How many characters does an average novel contain? Dickens, in his principal books, had generally a little over fifty, I think; but there are probably many less in the ordinary three-volumed emptiness. Say that twenty-five is about the usual number; this will give an annual increase of over twelve thousand to the fictitious population of Great Britain—a fact over which one really cannot pass in silence.

Now, all these people are intended to represent genuine human beings, and a great many of them (especially in first attempts, of which there must be a large proportion in our five hundred novels)—a great many, no doubt, are meant for portraits of living individuals. Of course, there is a good deal of copying—some of it unconscious, some probably intentional—from books instead of nature; it is easier, for example, to imitate Trollope's talk (simple and lifelike as it is) than to watch, and condense, and reproduce in an artistic form the conversations of our friends; but, allowing for all this, English literature produces in a year attempts to portray as many existing or possible men and women as would fill a small town.

And the question that naturally suggests itself is, what sort of portraits are they? Putting them to the most obvious test, how often do we meet and recognise their originals, or people whose characters are essentially the same as theirs, and prove them to be honest likenesses or true imaginations? Further, when we meet these originals, do we find what was attractive on paper as pleasant in real life, and, vice versa, what we detected at once in a novel as hypocritical villainy, altogether so disgusting in a casual acquaintance?

To these questions different people would return very different answers. Some readers are constantly meeting in the flesh friends from the dreamland of Mudie—the outward appearance of such guardsmen as Miss Broughton's is sufficient assurance to them of identity of character, a chance phrase or an eccentric gait brings before them one of the oddities of Dickens. Others, less hasty, recognise specimens of more natural types chosen by Thackeray, Balzac, George Eliot: perhaps one may say that they apprehend too clearly the impossibility of the natures put together for their puppets by most writers to be readily taken in by a superficial likeness to a commonplace type. Others, again, those really "constant readers" who get through their three novels a week with untiring regularity, appear to live in a hazy atmosphere in which neither the people in their books nor those of the outer world stand forth with any clearness: stories go in at one ear and out at the other, and by Saturday the opium-eater of fiction could not tell you the ingredients of Monday's dose.

But, assuming that we belong to the wiser second class of readers, have we ever met half a dozen people who might, beyond question, have been the originals of portraits in the collection of, say, five or eight thousand fictitious personages, great and small, with whom in a lifetime we have become acquainted? There is a good young man in "Pendennis"—name at the present moment forgotten, but he calls on Laura with Wagg one day—whom we have certainly met; a girl in one of Black's novels whom we know quite well, though her portrait is drawn with a spite almost feminine; and a family in "Daniel Deronda" to whose gush we have often submitted—it was much more bearable unwritten. Colonel Newcome, with variations perhaps not really important, we have known; and surely one Klesmer, at the least. Finally, to complete our half dozen (counting the Meyrick girls as one) we have long and carefully examined a flesh and blood replica of the hero of perhaps the greatest novel by any living writer—Hansel, in Auerbach's "On the Heights."

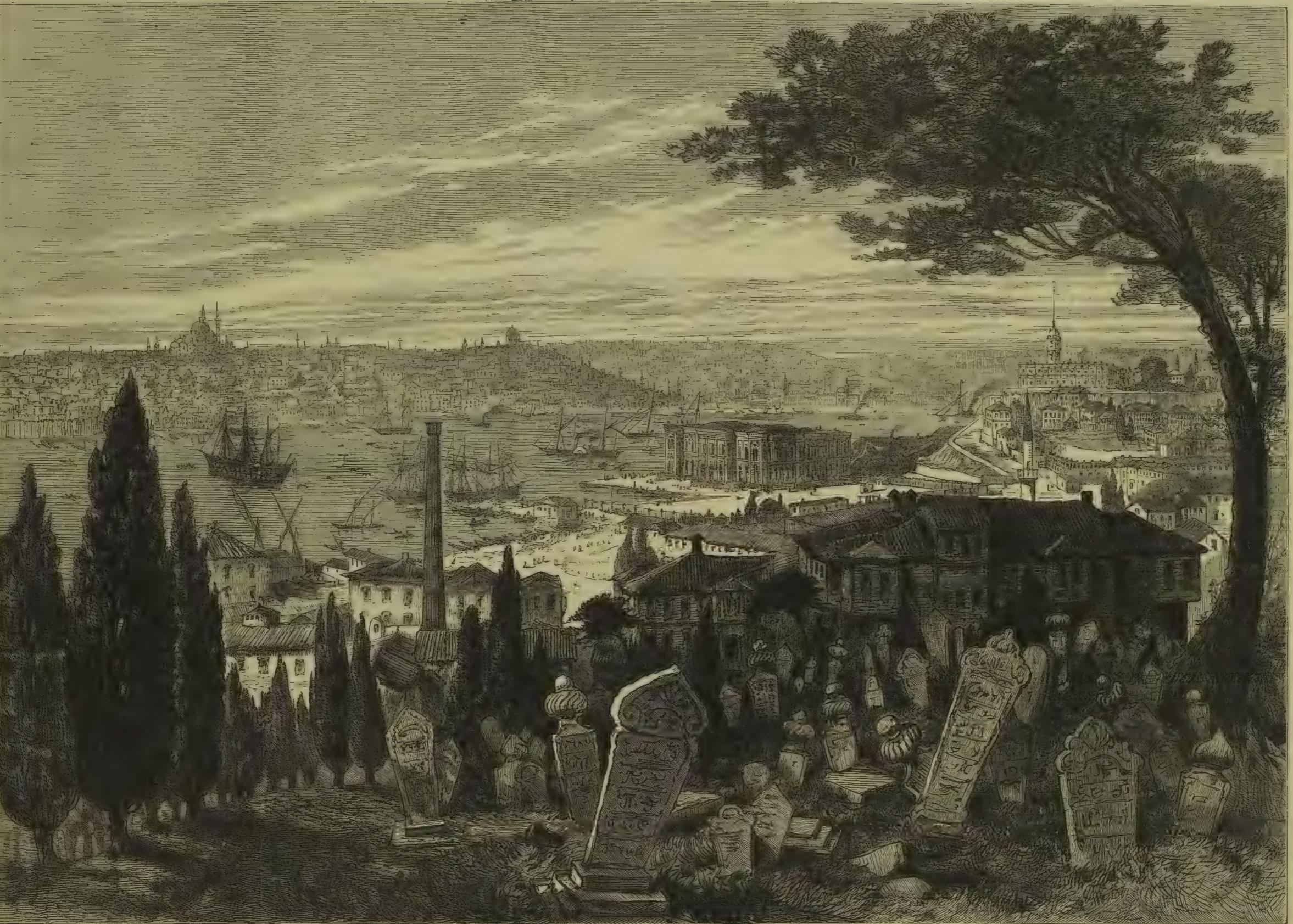
Not that these are one tenth of the people who have proved to us the possibility of characters in novels by general likenesses which perhaps single points of contrast made only more striking, but that at present we can recall no others who might actually have sat for portraits in Scott or Trollope, Auerbach or Balzac. We have certainly seen the brother of Mr. Lillywick, the cousin of the Laird of Dumbiedikes, close connections of more than one of Mr. Trollope's bagmen, and somebody very very like the immortal Foker; while, to take a higher range, everyone must have known people near akin to the Dorothea of "Middlemarch," to Beatrix Esmond and to William Dobbin—almost ideal though the one is in beauty, the other in nobility and truth.

Heroes and heroines of the ordinary type we must confess that we have seldom encountered; and, as they are the most monotonous of people, and apparently spend all their time in making love or in being made love to, it is well that they do not abound. Yet we must acknowledge an undying fear that one day we may meet our pet aversion—Little Dorrit; one maiden exactly like her in appearance we do know, but she is in character very much what that young person ought to have been, and unfortunately was not.

En revanche, we have met various people who posed as Little Dorrit, and were no doubt worse than the original; but this is a widely-spread sin, for which that great creature, the Commonplace Novelist, is answerable. (Not that Dickens himself was a commonplace novelist, though his heroes and heroines were types of nothingness.) The number of young men and women who consciously "set up to be" romantic people from Lytton, or "Guy Livingstone," or Miss Broughton, would not be believed in a census; a smattering of literary taste has grievous things in the way of affectation and gush to answer for—though it does sometimes give an ideal, somewhat higher than would otherwise have been placed before them, to impressionable, uncultivated natures.

The original people in novels would not be quite so dreadful to talk to as these their imitations; but, with of course some bright exceptions, they would be very bad. Conceit, gush, and prolixity would be their leading faults; and, though none of these are actionable, they are a good deal more unpleasant, in an ordinary way, than faults which are. Stupidity, on the other hand, is nearly always made too amusing to be really stupid in books—it would be great fun to meet most of the fools of fiction; perhaps the only exception being that wonderful specimen of genuine, possible, and yet artistic dulness, the stupid lodger in Balzac's "Père Goriot."

Fancy, finally, if you can, what it would be like to meet any of Ouida's characters in private life! The supposition is unthinkable—it is too wildly impossible. Would they not look entirely absurd beside ordinary chairs and tables, windows and doors—not to say men and women? How would they behave at dinner, or afternoon tea, or an evening party? We should never know—for immediately at their appearance we should leave the room.

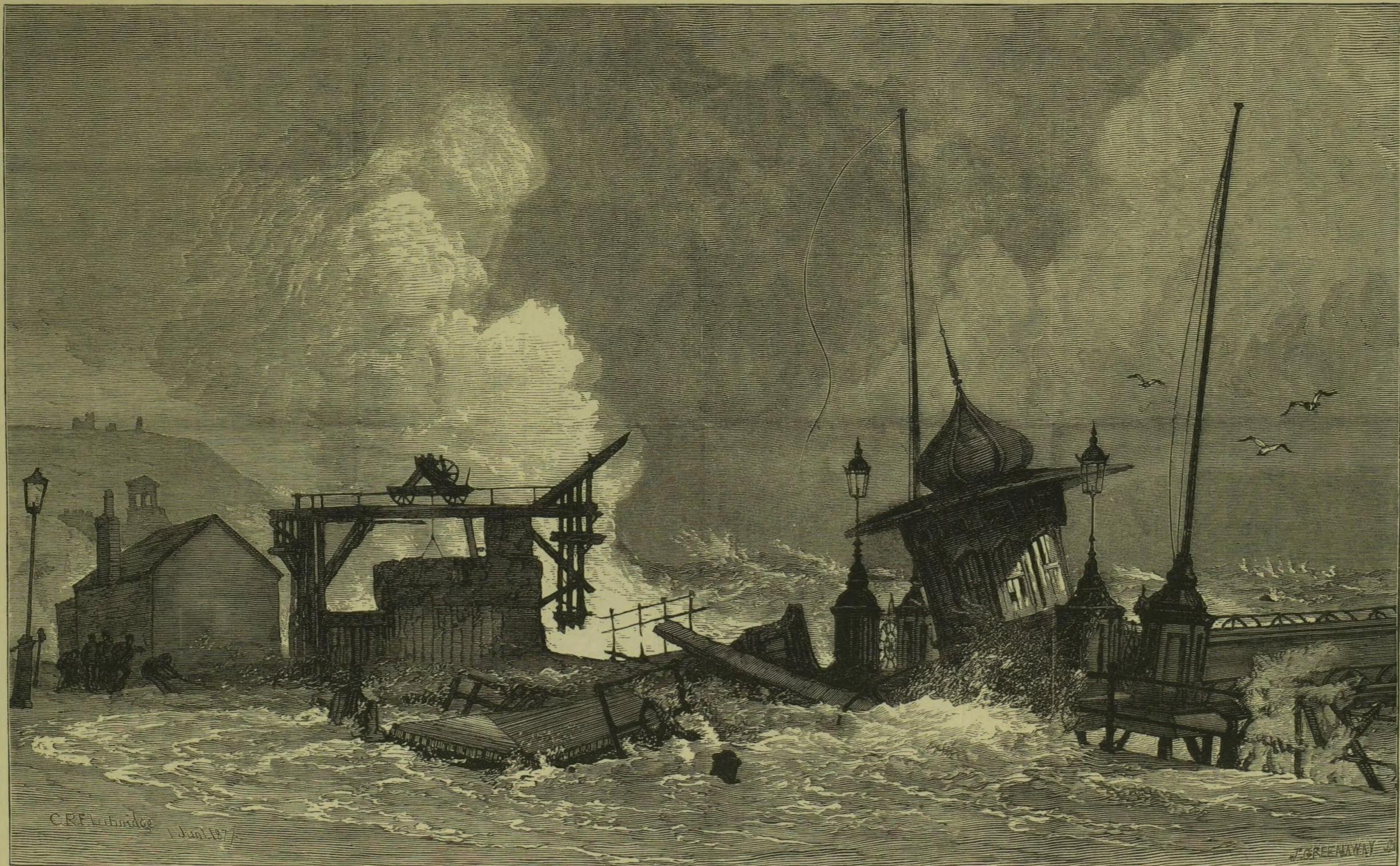


VIEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE, SHOWING THE TURKISH ADMIRALTY BUILDINGS, WHERE THE CONFERENCE IS BEING HELD.



THE ARMOURER'S DAUGHTER.

BY G. CATTERMOLE.



THE LATE STORMS: PARTIAL DESTRUCTION OF HASTINGS PIER.

MANCHESTER SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

The busy city of Manchester, with its smoky atmosphere, and with the pollution of its rivers, the Irwell, the Irk, and the Medlock, by the refuse of calico-printing dyeworks, has not hitherto enjoyed a high sanitary reputation. But its energetic and intelligent Municipal Corporation have taken in hand measures of improvement and material purification, which bid fair to make it, before many years, one of the healthiest large towns in the kingdom. They have long since provided, at a comparatively cheap rate, ample supplies of good water and of gas; the streets and suburban roads are generally well paved, drained, and cleansed; and of late years a notable reform has been undertaken in the disposal of household sewage. The old system of ash-pits or "middens," for the class of dwellings in which water is not used for that purpose, is superseded by the "box and pan" system, with a punctual removal and collection of the refuse matter, to be rendered harmless and inoffensive, and to be converted into useful manure, at the Corporation yard in Water-street. "Receptacle closets," accompanied with "cinder-sifters," have been furnished by the Corporation to 25,000 dwellings out of the 42,000 under the jurisdiction of the Health Committee, and the remaining 17,000 will be supplied within the next three years. These appliances are made at the Corporation workshops in Oldham-road. At the regular times during the week all such receptacles are collected by a house-to-house visitation; they are taken to the Corporation yard, in vans specially constructed to hold twenty-four each. We understand that every closet and sifter is cleaned, on an average, six times a month. In the yard there are carbonising kilns, "destructors," "concretors," and various other means of dealing with the substances brought by the vans. The following is the result of last year's operations:—7500 tons of manure have been removed from the yard by the farmers themselves; 1200 tons of concentrated manure have been manufactured; of the dry materials, 9000 tons have been made into mortar and sold to various parties in the city; whilst 6500 tons have been used as fuel for the furnaces of the kilns and boilers used in the yard. The carbonising kilns have reduced

weekly 110 tons of the foulest of the stuff to less than 50 tons, consisting, when the process is completed, half of charcoal, and half of rough material for making mortar. Of the total quantity taken from the closets, 63,775 tons were sent into Lancashire and Cheshire by boats; 2960 tons by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway into the East Riding of Yorkshire, and 8564 tons by the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway into the North Riding and into East Cheshire; 7269 tons were removed from the yard by market gardeners and farmers, 1119 tons were converted into "concentrated manure," 7425 tons made into mortar, and 6240 tons used as fuel or reduced in the furnaces to 2000 tons. The *Builder* of the 6th inst. gives further statistical details of these useful operations.

There still remained, however, a serious difficulty, in the cumbersome and expensive mode of removing by boat nearly 65,000 tons of manure taken by canal or river to the various farms in the country. It was hitherto conveyed by what are called narrow boats, or flats, dragged by horses in the usual way. The manure was tipped into the boat, and was barrowed out at the various wharves on the route. But this operation was not only expensive but inconvenient, foul, and disgusting. A happy idea was therefore conceived by Mr. Superintendent Whiley, that a steam-barge, with a derrick crane in the centre, should take the manure in boxes, lifted in and out by the crane, and, after discharging its cargo, return with the empty boxes to the yard. In a limited competition for a design, Messrs. Mestayer and Gunson, civil engineers, of Manchester, were successful; and they, as agents of Mr. Edward Hayes, engineer, of Stony Stratford, have supplied the barge to the Corporation.

We present an illustration of this barge. It is flat-bottomed, 68 ft. long, 14 ft. 10 in. wide, and 5 ft. 6 in. deep; the displacement of water when loaded is only 3 ft. 6 in., and it will carry one hundred boxes, each containing half a ton of manure. The barge is fitted up in the most substantial manner possible, and does great credit to Mr. Hayes, the engineer. Our illustration gives a general idea of the barge, its appearance and working. It is the first of its kind that has ever been constructed; but we can have no doubt that the great economy both of time and cost, with the superior

street. It has of late reached only the houses at the back of High-street and Keate's-lane, covering, of course, the College playing fields, Black Potts, the village of Datchet, the Brocas, and South Meadow, and flowing over the Slough-road, to the foot of the rising ground at Chalvey. Our illustration shows the view looking from Datchet towards Eton College. It is the opinion of Mr. Dod that one cause of the flooding, in the lower parts of the town, is the insufficient openings in Barnespool Bridge. The scholars and pupils of Eton will reassemble, on account of the floods, some days later than was at first appointed.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The following distributions of prizes and other events connected with the volunteer movement came off last week, besides those mentioned in our last issue:—

On Thursday the members of the Bank of England Association and the 50th Middlesex (Bank of England) had their prizes presented to them at the Bank by the Governor, Mr. K. H. Gibbs. The president of the association, Mr. J. P. Currie, in making his annual report, stated that the quality of the shooting had been fully maintained, and the prizes won with higher scores than had ever previously been recorded. The state of efficiency of the Bank division showed a slight falling off from last year, when they were the best company in the regiment. Captain Gray, in reporting on the 50th Middlesex Rifles, gave the enrolled strength at the last annual return as seventy-one, the whole of whom, with three exceptions, were efficient. The average attendance at drill during the year was fifty-three, a creditable percentage. The principal prize-winners were Private Rose, Sergeant Wright, Private Dean, Private Lewis, and Private Beck. In the evening the annual dinner was held at the Gaiety Restaurant, under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Currie.

The 9th (West) Middlesex held their annual regimental ball, at St. James's Hall, on Friday evening, when there was a good attendance of members of the regiment and their friends, amongst those present being Lieutenant-Colonel Barber, Captain Pennymore, and most of the officers.

The prizes won during the past year by members of the 1st London Artillery, who, in May last, were amalgamated with the 1st Middlesex Artillery, the whole being under the command of Major Wegg-Prosser, were presented to the winners, on Saturday night, in the Guildhall, by the Lord Mayor. Amongst the chief winners were Sergeant Champion, Sergeant Irwin, Captain Bevington, and Gunner Spon. The commanding officer gave a short history of the changes that had taken place during the past year, and stated that, although not largely increased in numbers, they were in efficient. They hoped, now they were established on a new basis, they would go on better than heretofore, and show in the future a regiment as powerful in number as it was good in quality. A pleasing part of the programme was the presentation to Sergeant Wildman, R.A. (one of the instructors), of the long service and good-conduct medal, which had been forwarded, together with the usual gratuity, from the War Office.

The first monthly competition of the year of the 7th Surrey took place, at Wimbledon, on Tuesday. Messrs. Hart, Richards, and Broughton were the highest scorers.

On Thursday evening the prizes won by the members of the 1st Worcestershire Artillery in their recent competitions in gun drill, repository, carbine-shooting, &c., were presented to them by Sir Edmund Lechmere, Bart., M.P. He very highly complimented the commanding officer, Major Stallard, on the remarkably efficient state of the corps, the return for the last year showing 319 efficient in a maximum establishment of 320. The distribution took place in the Theatre Royal, the pit of which had been specially floored, decorated, and otherwise prepared as a ball-room; and at the conclusion of the presentation dancing began and was kept up with great spirit; a capital selection of music being played by Messrs. Syngers and Gilmer's military band.

UNITED STATES SURVEY.

The annual report of the United States Secretary of the Interior, dated Oct. 31, 1876, shows that the survey of the Territories, under the direction of Professor Hayden, was continued in the summer of 1876 in Colorado, and included a considerable portion of Eastern Utah, the area embraced being about 10,000 square miles. The topographical as well as the geological character of the area is described as being of the highest interest. It has been called the plateau region. All the drainage extends westward into the Colorado river, and the streams, with their numerous branches, have worn deep gorges or canons into the crust of the earth 4000 ft. or more in depth. Continuous sections of strata are thus exposed, nearly a vertical mile in thickness, rendering the geology simple and expressive. The survey of the Rocky Mountain region, under the direction of Professor J. W. Powell, has also been continued, the area surveyed in 1876 being chiefly in the territory of Utah, but extending also to the northern part of Arizona. The report on the region embraced in this survey states that a very small portion of the country can be redeemed by irrigation for agriculture, and no part of it can be cultivated without irrigation. Extensive coal-fields exist in the region surveyed; but, as in many other parts of the world, these coal-fields are of practical value at comparatively few places. The general characteristics of these coal-fields have been the subject of much investigation, and some very interesting and valuable results have been reached. These will appear in the final reports. The quantity of available coal is practically inexhaustible. In the Uinta Mountains silver and copper mines have been discovered and worked by private parties. The extent of the silver and copper bearing rocks has been determined, but their value can be established only by extensive working.

POSTAGE OF THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

AT HOME.

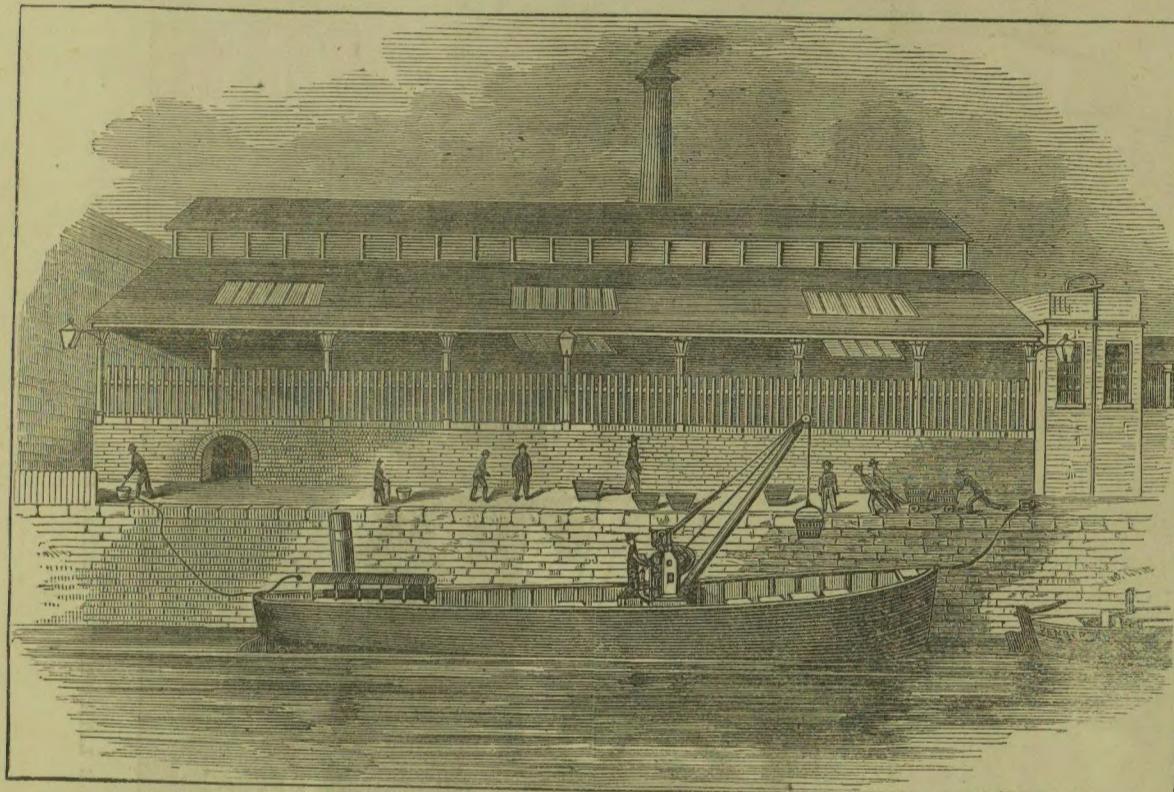
The cost of transmission by post within the United Kingdom, including the Channel Islands, is one halfpenny.

ABROAD.

An edition printed on thin paper, especially prepared for the Colonies and Foreign Countries, is issued weekly, and can be forwarded by post at the following rates:—

Africa, West Coast of	...	...	1d	Germany	...	...	...	...	1d
Alexandria	...	...	1d	Gibraltar	...	...	...	...	1d
Australia, via Brindisi	...	...	2d	Holland	...	...	...	...	1d
" via Southampton	...	1d	India, via Brindisi	...	...	...	...	...	2d
Austria	...	...	1d	India, via Southampton	...	...	...	...	1d
Belgium	...	...	1d	Italy	...	...	...	...	1d
Brazils	...	...	1d	New Zealand	...	...	...	...	1d
Canada	...	...	1d	Norway	...	...	...	...	1d
Cape of Good Hope	...	...	1d	Russia	...	...	...	...	1d
China, via Brindisi	...	2d	Spain	...	...	...	...	...	1d
" via Southampton	...	1d	Sweden	...	...	...	...	...	1d
Constantinople	...	...	1d	Switzerland	...	...	...	...	1d
Denmark	...	...	1d	United States	...	...	...	...	1d
France	...	...	1d	West Indies	...	...	...	...	1d

Copies of the ordinary edition sent abroad require double the above rates. Newspapers for foreign parts must be posted within eight days of the time of publication.



THE SEWAGE OF LARGE TOWNS: STEAM BARGE FOR THE CORPORATION OF MANCHESTER.

advantages of mechanical arrangements over the old system of manual labour, will lead to its imitation in the sanitary affairs of other towns and cities. It is far more useful than the City Corporation's state barge of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of London, the vessel of a mere holiday pageant,

which bears no token of those sable streams, but glides far off among the swans of Thames.

THE LATE FLOODS AND STORMS.

Our last week's Paper contained many illustrations of the destructive rage of the violent storm along the south coast on New-Year's Day, and of the floods which continued several days later, not only along the tidal part of the Thames, especially at Lambeth, but in the upper region, between Kingston and Richmond, as well as at Windsor and Oxford. Several additional instances of these disastrous effects of the combined visitation of heavy rains inland and tempests beating upon our shores are to be noticed among the subjects of our present illustrations.

The partial demolition of the Admiralty Pier at Dover, and of the Eastbourne Promenade Pier, has been described; but the pier at Hastings likewise suffered much damage. About noon on Monday, the 1st inst., the storm being then at its height, the force of the waves began to heave up the iron grating or openwork floor near the eastern toll-house; and this is bent upwards, which causes the toll-house to lean over on one side. One of the massive standards of ornamental iron-work, in which are placed the flagstaffs, immediately at the entrance to the pier, was uprooted and thrown down on the parade. The deck of the structure in almost its entire length is strained and upheaved. At various points the bulwarks have been washed away, but the iron-work stands fast. The head of the pier is a complete wreck. The extreme end of the lower deck has been entirely washed away, the bulwarks of the upper deck are greatly injured, and the flagstaff and its gear has been blown down. The roof of the pavilion itself was slightly injured. At times the sea made a complete breach over the structure. The foundations have not been in the slightest degree shaken. The mischief has chiefly taken place with the woodwork, which can easily be repaired.

Far away beyond the Land's End of Cornwall, the tempest prevailed among the Scilly Isles with extreme fury. The submarine telegraph cable which connects them with the mainland was broken; and while the storm forbade vessels to cross the sea, during several days, there was no possibility of communi-

cation. The uninhabited islet of Annette, one of the Scilly group, is surrounded with reefs and rocks, bearing such names as the Gilstone, Jacky's Rock, and Crebawethan, where many many ships have been wrecked. It was here that the German Atlantic steam-ship Schiller, from New York, was lost about two years ago. The Bishop's Rock lighthouse, erected in 1858, stands on the most westerly of these terrible rocks. It is built of granite, rising 147 ft. above high water. The men in charge of this lighthouse were entirely cut off, during nine weeks of the late stormy weather, from their needful supplies. On Monday, the 8th inst., they hoisted a signal, "Only one day's provisions left." The cutter belonging to the Trinity House Corporation was next day sent out to their relief. It could not, however, approach near enough to do what was wanted. The lighthouse keepers then resorted to the expedient of floating off a buoy, with a line attached to it. This buoy was secured by the cutter, and casks of provisions were hauled up by the men in the lighthouse holding the line. We give an illustration of this interesting scene. Of course, the numerous casualties to shipping have excited more than usual anxiety among those concerned in the ownership or the insurance of that kind of property. The great institution in the city of London, familiarly known as "Lloyd's," which occupies the principal set of upper rooms above the Royal Exchange, has been visited by many busy inquirers during the last two or three weeks. The underwriters, and the officers and agents of marine insurance companies, should have been uncommonly active in their calling upon this occasion; and the "loss book," in which the names of unlucky shipwrecked vessels are legibly inscribed, must have been scanned with painful eagerness by hundreds of men, at every business hour of the day. This also is a scene which we have thought worthy of an illustration.

The floods in the meadow lands about Windsor, Slough, and Eton are not a subject which has the interest of novelty; but there is much discussion just now upon the best means of preventing this almost annual visitation. The chairman of the Eton Local Board, who is the Rev. C. Wolley Dod, an assistant master of Eton College, having lived nearly forty years, with some intermission, at that place, bears his testimony in last Wednesday's *Times*. He is not inclined to think that the Thames at Eton is now more liable to floods than it was formerly, and he states that the flood of 1852 rose nine inches higher than either the flood of November, 1875, or that of the present January. Upon three previous occasions, between 1835 and 1844, the Thames flowed across Eton High-

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

DOWAGER LADY LIFFORD.

The Right Hon. Mary Anne, Dowager Viscountess Lifford, died at Torquay, on the 3rd inst., aged ninety-two. Her Ladyship was fifth daughter of Cornwallis, first Viscount Hawarden, by Anne Isabella, his third wife, sister of Charles Stanley, first Viscount Mock. The family of Maude is remarkable for its longevity. Sir Robert Maude, Bart., the grandfather of Lady Lifford, whose death we are now recording, in 1877, was born more than two hundred years ago, and was ten years old when King Charles II. died! Her marriage, to James, third Viscount Lifford, took place on April 15, 1809, and its issue consists of two surviving sons and three daughters—the eldest being James, the present Viscount Lifford, one of the Irish representative peers.

DOWAGER LADY WALLSCOURT.

The Right Hon. Elizabeth, Dowager Lady Wallscourt, died on the 2nd inst., at 5, Montagu-square, aged seventy-two. Her Ladyship was only daughter of the late William Lock, Esq., of Norbury Park, in the county of Surrey; was married, Sept. 23, 1822, to Joseph Henry, third Lord Wallscourt, and had surviving issue, one son, Errol Augustus Joseph Henry, present Lord Wallscourt, late Captain Coldstream Guards, and now Gentleman Usher to his Grace the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and two daughters, Elizabeth Frederica, wife of Lieutenant-General the Hon. Arthur Upton, and Elizabeth Nina, wife of Major-General the Hon. James Macdonald, C.B.

THE REV. RICHARD COBBOLD.

The Rev. Richard Cobbold, whose death is just announced, was one of the respectable family of Cobbold long settled near Ipswich, in Suffolk. He was born in 1797, and educated at Caius College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. in 1820 and M.A. in 1823. In 1826 he became Rector of Wortham, and was also for some time Rural Dean of Hartismere. The writings of Mr. Cobbold are well known—not only those of a religious character, but also his works of fiction, "Margaret Catchpole," "Mary Anne Wellington," "Freston Tewes," &c. Mr. Cobbold's youngest son, Thomas Spencer Cobbold, M.D., F.R.S., F.L.S., is the distinguished geologist and botanist.

MR. HOBHOUSE.

Thomas Benjamin Hobhouse, Esq., formerly M.P. for Rochester and Lincoln, died, on the 3rd inst., at Coopersale, near Epping, aged sixty-nine. He was youngest son of Sir Benjamin Hobhouse, first Baronet, by Amelia, his second wife, daughter of the Rev. Joshua Parry, and half-brother of Sir John Cam Hobhouse, created Lord Broughton. Mr. Hobhouse was a member of the English Bar.

The deaths are also announced of:—

Mr. Alexander Bain, the inventor of the electro-chemical printing telegraph, and the author of several books and pamphlets relating to electric telegraphy.

T. S. Beck, M.D., F.R.S., on the 6th inst., aged sixty-three.

Henry Benson, Esq., of Westcliffe Lodge, Ramsgate, J.P., on the 6th inst., in his eighty-ninth year.

The Rev. John Cooke Faber, late Rector of Chicklade, Wilts, on the 30th ult., aged sixty-five.

Captain Robert Faussett, of Folley Lodge, Armagh, County Inspector of the Royal Irish Constabulary, on the 9th inst.

Thomas Fox Embleton Fox, Esq., of Northorpe Hall, Lincolnshire, J.P., on the 6th inst., aged fifty-three. He was eldest son of the late William Embleton, Esq., of Manchester, and assumed, by Royal license, the name and arms of Fox at the decease of his cousin, Thomas Fox, Esq., of Northorpe.

John Floyer, Esq., of Hints Hall, in the county of Stafford, on the 1st. inst., aged seventy-seven, eldest son of the late William Humberstone Cawley, Esq., who assumed the surname and arms of Floyer as heir to his maternal uncle, Ralph Floyer, Esq., of Hints, High Sheriff of Staffordshire in 1780.

Arthur Edward Gayer, LL.D., Q.C. (called to the Bar in 1827), one of the best-known lawyers of the old Prerogative Court of Ireland, on the 13th inst., at an advanced age.

Thomas Lewin, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., on the 5th inst., in his seventy-second year.

Edward William Murphy, A.M., M.D., late Professor of Midwifery, University College, London, on the 4th inst., aged seventy-four. Dr. Murphy was the author of several valuable medical works.

The Rev. Thaddeus O'Malley, a Roman Catholic clergyman, well known in literature and politics, and one of the earliest advocates of Home Rule.

The Hon. Charles Rogers Nesbitt, member of the Legislative Council of the Bahamas, formerly Lieutenant-Governor of that colony, and subsequently Lieutenant-Governor of St. Vincent's, on the 15th ult., aged seventy-seven.

Lady Diana Pakington, on the 1st inst., aged forty-eight. Her Ladyship was daughter of George, fourth Earl of Glasgow, by Julia, his second wife, daughter of the late Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart., and was married, July 4, 1849, to the Hon. John Slaney Pakington, eldest son of Lord Hampton.

Alfred Smee, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Bank of England, on the 11th inst., aged fifty-eight; a well-known electrician, and the author of many works connected with the science in which he was so much distinguished. He was an unsuccessful candidate for Rochester in the Conservative interest in 1865.

The Rev. Barnard Smith, M.A., Rector of Glaston, Rutlandshire, and Rural Dean, late Fellow of St. Peter's College, Cambridge, on the 29th ult., in his sixtieth year.

Robert Sherratt Tomlinson, Esq., of The Woodlands, Burton-on-Trent, J.P., on the 7th inst., aged seventy.

William Gerard Walmsley, Esq., of Westwood Hall, in the county of Lancaster, Lord of the Manor of Ince, J.P., formerly Captain in the 17th Lancers, on the 2nd inst., aged thirty-five. He was eldest son of William Gerard Walmsley, Esq., of Westwood, by Caroline, his wife, daughter of the late Sir Thomas De Trafford, Bart., and represented a branch of the ancient Lancashire family of Walmsley of Sholay and Dun Kenhalgh.

Mr. James Marshall has offered £1000 towards the completion of the central tower of Glasgow University.

An open competition for 132 men clerkships in the lower division of the Civil Service will be held in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, on Tuesday, March 13, and following days. Preliminary examinations will be held in London, Edinburgh, Dublin, Bristol, and Leeds, on Feb. 13 and 27.

The income of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland, in 1876, for missionary and benevolent purposes, exceeded £104,000. This sum exceeds that for the previous year by nearly £13,000, although, in consequence of the union of Presbyterians in England in June last, about one hundred congregations have transferred a considerable proportion of their former contributions from the Synod in Scotland to that of the Presbyterian Church of England.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

DOLLY (Manchester).—In reply to B takes B, Black can play P to Kt 3rd, and, if then White proceeds with K to Q 3rd, Black's defence is R to K 2nd.

J B (Boxford).—Thanks for your letter and the amended position inclosed.

KING'S GAMBIT.—It is published by Dean and Son, Fleet-street.

I O H T (Norwich).—We are obliged for the variations, which shall be reported on next week. If sound, the combination is very beautiful.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 1715 received from B Lewy, Tredunnooch, Dolly, T F Ashmall, W V G D, J Wood, W Marshall, Heworth, A Little Boy, J Byng.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 1716 received from H B, W H Gibon, Owlct, C Crosky, W F Payne, Dolly, Lily, Arcanum, Birdseye, B Books, J Keeble, D L Arthur, J Barford, E Frau, East Marden, J de Honstel, H B, jun., Eaton, J H Andrews, Jack, G A M. S., Rotoomago, Woolwich Chess Club, H Bee, Highfield, B Hedges, N V L, S W G, W. W. Herewal, Z Ingold, K. K. W. G. Wood, W V G D, W. L. G. Green, A Askdown, A. E. Studd, J C Skinner, W S B, J. Roughhead, Cant, J St. Phen, and T Rapp. It will answer a large number of correspondents if we point out that Black's defence to R takes Q is P to K 4th.

PROBLEMS received from T Rapp, A E Studd and J Byng, and Games received from W Coates, are acknowledged with thanks.

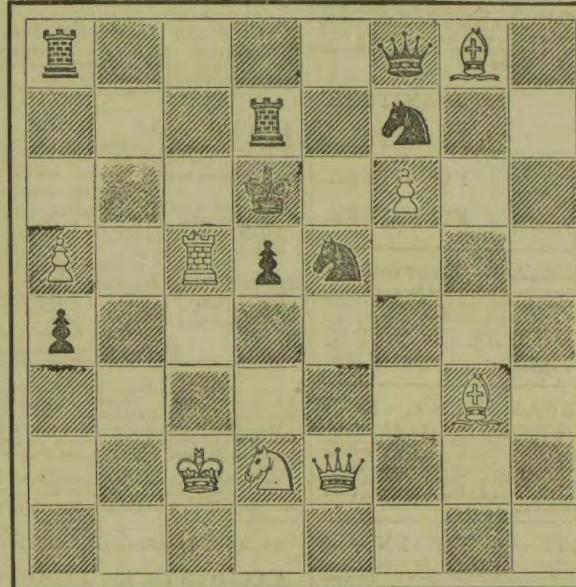
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1716.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to Q B 5th Any move. 2. Mates accordingly.

PROBLEM NO. 1718.

By C. M. BAXTER.

BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS IN LONDON.

The following interesting Game was played recently at the Divan between Mr. BODEN and Mr. HEWITT.—(King's Bishop's Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. H.). BLACK (Mr. B.). WHITE (Mr. H.). BLACK (Mr. B.).

1. P to K 4th P to K 4th 17. Kt to K 3rd P to Q 5th

2. B to B 4th P to Q B 3rd 18. Kt to R 4th P takes B

3. B to K 3rd This sacrifice of the Queen for two minor pieces is a happy thought, and is characteristic of Black's style.

Although a strong and ingenious player, White is not familiar with the openings. The best continuation is, probably, Q to K 2nd.

4. P takes P P to K B 4th 19. Kt takes Q B takes Kt

5. Q to R 5th (ch) K to K 2nd 20. Kt to K 4th B takes Kt

6. P to Q 3rd Kt to K B 3rd 21. R takes B P to K 7th (dis. ch)

7. Q to R 4th B takes P 22. K to R sq R to K sq

8. Kt to K 3rd Q to Q 3rd 23. R takes R K takes R

9. Kt to K B 3rd Q to K 2nd 24. B to B 4th Kt to K 5th

10. Castles Q Kt to Q 2nd 25. Black's every move tells. If White now plays the Bishop, White plays Q to Q 5th (ch), and unless White gives up the Queen for Kt he will be mated off hand.

11. P to Q B 4th 26. B to B 5th (ch) A very ingenious stroke. If Black takes the Bishop, White plays Q to Q 5th (ch), recovering the piece, with an improved position.

12. Kt to Kt 5th K to Kt 3rd 27. K to B sq The White Queen is being now out of play, the Bishop can be captured with safety. Black's play is very fine.

Necessary, as White threatens to check with the Kt at K B 7th.

13. Kt to Q B 3rd B to K 2nd 28. Q takes R P (ch) K to B 3rd

14. P to K 4th P to K 5th 29. Q to R 4th (ch) K to Kt 2nd

15. R to K sq P to K 4th R to K R sq

We can see no objection to P to B 5th, and it strikes us as being more effective than the move in the text.

16. R to K 6th P takes P 30. P to K 4th R to K R sq

17. Kt to Kt 2nd Q to B 4th (ch) 31. Q to K sq P to Q 7th

This is fatal, but he has nothing better to do.

32. Kt to Kt 6th (ch) Kt to Kt 2nd 33. K to Kt 2nd Kt takes Q, and White resigned.

THE LINCOLN COUNTY CHESS ASSOCIATION.

The gathering of Lincolnshire chess-players, held at Louth, was, locally, a great success, although, owing to the short notice of the meeting, and many of the leading amateurs being unable to attend, there were only four entries for the first-class tourney. These were the Revs. A. B. Skipworth and W. L. Newham, and Messrs. J. de Soysa and J. Parker. The entry being so small, it was arranged that Mr. Skipworth should yield the odds of pawn and move to each of the visitors, and that the latter should play with each other on even terms. Each competitor played three games with the others, and the two prizes were awarded to the highest scores:—

The Rev. A. B. Skipworth won all his games, scoring 9.

Mr. J. de Soysa won five games and drew one, scoring 5½.

Rev. W. L. Newham won two games and drew one, scoring 2½.

Mr. J. Parker drew two games, scoring 1.

The two prizes, value £3 3s. and £1 1s. respectively, were therefore awarded to Messrs. Skipworth and De Soysa.

In the second class the competition was close and exciting to the last. Twelve competitors entered the lists, and the first prize, value £3, as well as a special prize, a bound copy of the *Chess-Player's Chronicle* from 1868 to 1873, offered for the highest score by a Lincolnshire player, was won by Mr. Cockman, of Grantham. The second and third prizes, value £2 5s., were divided between the Rev. W. L. Newham, of Leicester, and Mr. Walton, of Grantham, whose respective scores were equal; and the fourth prize was divided between Captain Coates, of Grimsby, and Master H. Jackson, of Densbury, who each scored 6½ games. Master H. Jackson, who shared the fourth honour of the tourney, is, we are informed, only thirteen years of age, and he defeated his father, who was also a competitor in this class.

A Lincoln County Chess Association is the outcome of this successful gathering. It is to hold annual meetings in the north and south of the county alternately during the first week in each year. Earl Brownlow, the Lord Lieutenant of the county, will be invited to act as president for the ensuing year; and Mr. Skipworth has accepted office as honorary secretary and treasurer. J. L. Fyfe, Esq., was the president at Louth, and he took the chair at the public luncheon held during the meeting.

Professor Henry J. Miller, president of the Belgian Microscopical Society, has issued a French translation of Mr. Jabez Hogg's notes on some recent microscopic researches.

At a special meeting of the Harwich Town Council, yesterday week, it was resolved to carry out a plan of drainage in the borough, at a cost of £13,000. The matter has been under consideration two years.

A meeting was held in Birmingham, on Wednesday, to decide upon the scheme for a local marine aquarium. Three plans were considered, and the meeting unanimously adopted the second, associating with the aquarium a large hall, in which organ performances, concerts, and other forms of entertainment could be given.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The Scotch confirmation, dated Aug. 31 last, under seal of the Commissariot of Ayrshire, of the will, codicil, and other testamentary papers of Mr. James Baird, late of Auchmedder, ironmaster in Glasgow, who died at Cambusdon, Ayrshire, on June 20 last, granted to Messrs. Alexander Whitelaw, M.P., William Weir, David Wallace, William Baird, and Alexander Baird, nephews of the deceased, the executors nominate, was sealed in London on the 3rd inst., the aggregate value of the effects in England, Ireland, and Scotland amounting to upwards of £1,190,000.

The will, dated Aug. 27, 1875, of Mr. Charles Chatfield, late of Broad Green House, Croydon, who died on Nov. 23 last, was proved on the 27th ult. by Mrs. Mary Chatfield, the widow, Matthew Hodgson, and George Harris, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £250,000. The testator gives to his wife £5000, his plate, pictures, books, furniture and household effects, and all his real and copyhold estates; to his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Caroline Emma Chatfield, the widow of his deceased son, Charles Henry Chatfield, an annuity of £850; and there are various other legacies. Certain sums of dock stock are directed to be transferred to the trustees of the marriage-settlement of his daughter, Mrs. Adelaide Mary Hodgson; and the income of the residue of the personality is to be paid to his wife for life. On her death the testator leaves one moiety of such residue to his said daughter, and the other moiety—subject to the payment thereout of the said annuity of £850, to his three grandchildren, Charles Edward Chatfield, Frederick Chatfield, and Maud Chatfield.

The will and two codicils, dated April 28, June 17, and Sept. 24, 1876, of the Right Hon. Sir John Stuart, P.C., late of Loch Carron, Ross-shire, North Britain, who died on Oct. 29 last, at No. 107, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, were proved on the 1st inst. by Dugald Stuart, the son, and John Stuart, the nephew, the executors, the personal estate in England being sworn under £18,000. The testator leaves to his housekeeper, Jane Pennington, an annuity of £40; a legacy to his daughter Jessie, in addition to her settlement; and the residue of his estate, heritable and movable, to his said son, Dugald. The deceased was formerly one of the Vice-Chancellors of the High Court of Chancery.

The will, dated Dec. 30, 1875, of the Right Hon. Edward Horsman, P.C., M.P., late of No. 1, Richmond-terrace, Whitehall, who died Nov. 29 last, at Biarritz, in France, was proved on the 1st inst. by Mrs. Charlotte Louisa Horsman, the widow, the sole executrix, to whom he gives, devises, bequeaths, and appoints all his real and personal property absolutely. The personal estate is sworn under £5000.

The personality of the late Chief Justice Whiteside has been sworn under £35,000.

That the greatest lawyers will most probably blunder in the draughting of their own wills has long since attained the dignity of an axiom; but few, perhaps, are aware of the number and striking character of the instances upon which this axiom is founded. In a note to Hayes and Jarman's "Concise Forms of Wills" a list is given of these "folly's of the wise;" and a very remarkable list it is. No fewer than fifteen legal luminaries of the first magnitude are comprised in the catalogue. The will of Mr. Serjeant Hill, it is said, "was so singularly confused that for the respect due to the very learned Serjeant it might not unreasonably have been held void for uncertainty;" though it is not quite clear how the reputation of the learned Serjeant could have made his meaning any the more easy to discover, or how the celebrity of a testator could have diminished the obscurity of his language. But "the will of Sir Samuel Romilly was also unartificially framed, and that of Chief Baron Thomson was the subject of Chancery proceedings. So also was the will of Chief Justice Holt, Chief Justice Eyre, Mr. Serjeant Maynard, Vernon, the eminent Chancery counsel, Mr. Baron Wood, Mr. Justice Vaughan, Francis Vesey, jun., the reporter, Richard Preston, the conveyancer, and Lord Chancellor Westbury." Two, at any rate, of these experts might have been warned by the previous fate of a distinguished friend against the indiscretion of attempting to draw their own wills; for we read that "Chief Justice Saunders appears to have made a speculative devise upon the validity of which his executors, Maynard, Holt, and Pollexfen, all great lawyers, were divided in opinion." The list, however, is not yet concluded, for

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12 Tea Spoons 10 4 18 12 Tea Spoons 1s. 5 12 0

1 Pair Sugar Tongs 0 15 0 1 Pair Sugar Tongs 1 5 0

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